

By: Senator(s) Frazier, Horhn, Harden

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2596

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING  
2 THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MISSISSIPPI CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM AND NATIONAL  
3 BLACK SPORTS HALL OF FAME IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI; TO REQUIRE THE  
4 COOPERATION OF STATE AGENCIES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is hereby created a commission to  
7 conduct a study regarding the development of a Mississippi Civil  
8 Rights Museum and National Black Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson,  
9 Mississippi, comprised of nine (9) members. Of the nine (9)  
10 members, three (3) shall be appointed by the Governor, three (3)  
11 by the Lieutenant Governor, and three (3) by the Speaker of the  
12 Mississippi House of Representatives.

13 (2) The Governor shall appoint a member from the body to  
14 serve as chairperson.

15 (3) The members of the commission must be broadly  
16 representative of various racial, gender, religious, ethnic,  
17 socioeconomic, political and professional or trade groups within  
18 the state; and at least one (1) member of the commission shall be  
19 sixty (60) years of age or older.

20 (4) The appointing authority shall make appointments to the  
21 commission no later than July 1, 2006, and the commission shall  
22 meet upon call of the chairman no later than September 1, 2006.

23 (5) The commission shall conduct a preliminary study  
24 regarding the development of a Mississippi Civil Rights Museum and  
25 National Black Sports Hall of Fame in the City of Jackson.

26 Creation of this museum would create a repository for the  
27 historical documentation and accurate portrayal of contributions  
28 made by the State of Mississippi in the area of civil rights and

29 provide an avenue for educational research and economic growth for  
30 Mississippi. The report shall be presented to the 2007 Regular  
31 Session of the Legislature, and upon the presentation of its  
32 report the commission shall be dissolved.

33 (6) Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum for the  
34 conduct of business, however, the commission may establish  
35 subcommittees of not less than three (3) of its members to  
36 exercise its powers subject to such procedures and limitations as  
37 the commission may provide by rule.

38 (7) The members of the commission shall be reimbursed for  
39 actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, and  
40 shall receive a per diem as authorized by Section 25-3-69,  
41 Mississippi Code of 1972, for attending official meetings of the  
42 commission.

43 (8) The commission created by this act is assigned to the  
44 Office of the Governor for budgetary administrative purposes. The  
45 commission may apply for grants or funding from any source to  
46 carry out its functions.

47 (9) All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and  
48 officers of the state are authorized and directed to cooperate  
49 with the commission in implementing the provisions of this act.

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