

By: Senator(s) Huggins

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2620

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 39-3-101, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
 2 TO TRANSFER THE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD OF  
 3 COMMISSIONERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION TO THE BOARD  
 4 OF TRUSTEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY; TO AMEND  
 5 SECTION 39-3-355, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE  
 6 MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE BY  
 7 JANUARY 1, 2007, ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIBRARY  
 8 ACCREDITATION SYSTEM THAT WAS MANDATED IN 1988; AND FOR RELATED  
 9 PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 39-3-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 12 amended as follows:

13 **[Through June 30, 2007, this section shall read as follows:]**

14 39-3-101. There is hereby created a board of commissioners  
 15 of the Mississippi Library Commission to be composed of five (5)  
 16 members appointed by the Governor with overlapping terms, the  
 17 members of the first board to be appointed one (1) for one (1)  
 18 year, one (1) for two (2) years, one (1) for three (3) years, one  
 19 (1) for four (4) years, one (1) for five (5) years, and their  
 20 successors each to be appointed for five-year terms, each member  
 21 to serve until his successor is appointed. Two (2) members shall  
 22 be appointed by the Governor from the state at large. Two (2)  
 23 members shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of not less  
 24 than six (6) names submitted by the Mississippi Library  
 25 Association, one (1) of whom shall be a librarian who is a  
 26 graduate of a library school accredited by the American Library  
 27 Association and actively engaged in full-time library work at the  
 28 time of the appointment and one (1) of whom shall be, at time of  
 29 the appointment, a member of a legally organized board of trustees  
 30 of a Mississippi free public library; and one (1) member shall be

31 the President of the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, or a  
32 member of said federation recommended by her; and which federation  
33 member shall, when appointed, serve a full term as herein provided  
34 for members to serve under a staggered term basis, and the  
35 successor to the federation member shall be the president of the  
36 federation then serving, or a member of the federation recommended  
37 by her, when the term of the federation member shall expire; and  
38 after the appointment of a federation member to the board, and  
39 when her term as a member thereof shall expire, each succeeding  
40 member of the federation who becomes a member of the board shall  
41 serve a full term under the provisions of this article. Vacancies  
42 created by resignation shall be filled by appointment for the  
43 unexpired term.

44 **[From and after July 1, 2007, this section shall read as**  
45 **follows:]**

46 39-3-101. The Board of Trustees of the Department of  
47 Archives and History created by Section 39-5-3 shall be the Board  
48 of Commissioners of the Mississippi Library Commission. Any  
49 reference to the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Library  
50 Commission shall mean the Board of Trustees of the Department of  
51 Archives and History. The Board of Trustees of the Department of  
52 Archives and History shall have all power necessary to oversee and  
53 manage the Mississippi Library Commission that was heretofore  
54 vested in the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Library  
55 Commission.

56 **SECTION 2.** Section 39-3-355, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
57 amended as follows:

58 **[Through June 30, 2007, this section shall read as follows:]**

59 39-3-355. (1) The Mississippi Library Commission shall be  
60 responsible for developing a system of public service incentives  
61 within a public library accreditation program on the  
62 recommendation of a committee of qualified public library  
63 professionals and trustees. The committee of fifteen (15) members

64 shall be appointed by the Mississippi Library Commission Board of  
65 Commissioners as follows: seven (7) public library trustees with  
66 at least one (1) from each congressional district; five (5)  
67 professional public librarians, one (1) appointed by each  
68 commissioner; and three (3) at-large members.

69 (2) The Legislature recognizes the paramount importance of  
70 devising an accreditation system for local libraries and for  
71 allocating state funds to such libraries based on accreditation.  
72 To this end, the Legislature finds that the Mississippi Library  
73 Commission's lack of an accreditation system in 2005 represents  
74 flagrant disregard for the legislation requiring such that was  
75 adopted in 1988.

76 (3) On or before January 1, 2007, the Mississippi Library  
77 Commission shall report to the Legislature on its implementation  
78 of the accreditation system it has devised and implemented.

79 **[From and after July 1, 2007, this section shall read as**  
80 **follows:]**

81 39-3-355. The Board of Trustees of the Mississippi  
82 Department of Archives and History shall be responsible for  
83 developing a system of public service incentives within a public  
84 library accreditation program on the recommendation of a committee  
85 of qualified public library professionals and trustees. The  
86 committee of fifteen (15) members shall be appointed by the  
87 Mississippi Library Commission Board of Commissioners as follows:  
88 seven (7) public library trustees with at least one (1) from each  
89 congressional district; five (5) professional public librarians,  
90 one (1) appointed by each commissioner; and three (3) at-large  
91 members.

92 The commission shall have the authority to revise the system  
93 of accreditation from time to time as it deems appropriate.

94 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
95 and after July 1, 2006.