

By: Representative Clark

To: Public Property

## HOUSE BILL NO. 863

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 ENCOURAGE THE  
6 USE OF CERTAIN WOOD AND BIO-BASED MATERIALS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
7 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DEVELOP AN EDUCATION AND  
8 OUTREACH PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE UTILIZATION OF LEED STANDARDS;  
9 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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

23 (b) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged  
24 to use composite wood and agrifiber products if the products are  
25 certified as meeting the American National Standards Institute  
26 standard requirements for formaldehyde emissions or contain no  
27 added urea-formaldehyde. Each agency and political subdivision is  
28 encouraged to use renewable, bio-based materials that are either  
29 residuals of or products grown or harvested under a recognized  
30 sustainable management system such as the Forest Stewardship

31 Council, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program, the American  
32 Tree Farm System, the Canadian Standards Association, the Organic  
33 Trade Association, and the Association for Bamboo in Construction.  
34 Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to use  
35 renewable, bio-based raw materials certified in accordance with  
36 certification programs for environmental management.  
37 Certification programs include, but are not limited to, the Forest  
38 Stewardship Council, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program,  
39 the American Tree Farm System, the Canadian Standards Association,  
40 the Organic Trade Association, and the Association for Bamboo in  
41 Construction.

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

44 (4) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to  
45 expeditiously assess its procurement policies and procedures to  
46 ensure the promotion of environmentally sustainable building  
47 practices incorporated in LEED standards.

48 (5) It is the duty of the Department of Environmental  
49 Quality, if funds are available, to develop and promote a  
50 coordinated outreach and education program to increase public  
51 awareness and utilization of LEED certification and standards in  
52 the design and construction of commercial buildings.

53 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
54 and after July 1, 2007.