

By: Representatives Reeves, Robinson (63rd)

To: Corrections

HOUSE BILL NO. 915

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-931, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO CONTRACT WITH THE
3 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF HINDS COUNTY TO HOUSE STATE INMATES IN A
4 REGIONAL FACILITY; TO ALLOW HINDS COUNTY TO HOUSE 450 STATE
5 INMATES IN A REGIONAL FACILITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-5-931, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 47-5-931. (1) The Department of Corrections, in its
10 discretion, may contract with the board of supervisors of one or
11 more counties and/or with a regional facility jointly operated by
12 two (2) or three (3) counties, to provide for housing, care and
13 control of not more than three hundred (300) offenders, except for
14 Hinds County which may contract for the housing, care and control
15 of not more than four hundred fifty (450) offenders, who are in
16 the custody of the State of Mississippi. Any facility owned or
17 leased by a county or counties for this purpose shall be designed,
18 constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with American
19 Correctional Association standards, and shall comply with all
20 constitutional standards of the United States and the State of
21 Mississippi, and with all court orders that may now or hereinafter
22 be applicable to the facility. If the Department of Corrections
23 contracts with more than one (1) county to house state offenders
24 in county correctional facilities, excluding a regional facility,
25 then the first of such facilities shall be constructed in Sharkey
26 County and the second of such facilities shall be constructed in
27 Jefferson County.

28 (2) The Department of Corrections shall contract with the
29 boards of supervisors of the following counties to house state
30 inmates in regional facilities: (a) Marion and Walthall Counties;
31 (b) Carroll and Montgomery Counties; (c) Stone and Pearl River
32 Counties; (d) Winston and Choctaw Counties; (e) Kemper and Neshoba
33 Counties; (f) Holmes County and any contiguous county in which
34 there is located an unapproved jail; and (g) Bolivar County and
35 any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved
36 jail. The Department of Corrections may contract with the boards
37 of supervisors of the following counties to house state inmates in
38 regional facilities: (a) Yazoo County and any contiguous county,
39 (b) Chickasaw County; * * * (c) George and Greene Counties; and
40 (d) Hinds County. The Department of Corrections shall decide the
41 order of priority of the counties listed in this subsection with
42 which it will contract for the housing of state inmates. For the
43 purposes of this subsection the term "unapproved jail" means any
44 jail that the local grand jury determines should be condemned or
45 has found to be of substandard condition or in need of substantial
46 repair or reconstruction.

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