By: Representative Watson

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1025

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-7-22.29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 1 TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE TAX COMMISSION TO WAIVE THE 2 PERIOD OF TIME WITHIN WHICH THE JOBS TAX CREDIT FOR PRODUCERS OF 3 4 ALTERNATIVE ENERGY MAY BE UTILIZED BY PRODUCERS THAT ARE UNABLE TO MAINTAIN THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF JOBS AS A RESULT OF CERTAIN 5 DISASTERS; TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE TAX COMMISSION 6 7 TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT A CERTAIN NUMBER OF JOBS BE 8 MAINTAINED BY SUCH PRODUCERS AND EXTEND THE CARRYFORWARD PERIOD OF THE CREDIT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR WHICH THE 9 REQUIREMENTS MAY BE WAIVED AND THE CARRYFORWARD MAY BE EXTENDED 10 SHALL NOT EXCEED THREE YEARS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 11

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: SECTION 1. Section 27-7-22.29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

15 27-7-22.29. (1) Producers are allowed a job tax credit for taxes imposed by Section 27-7-5 equal to One Thousand Dollars 16 17 (\$1,000.00) annually for each net new full-time employee job for a period of twenty (20) years from the date the credit begins; 18 however, if the producer is located in an area that has been 19 declared by the Governor to be a disaster area and as a result of 20 the disaster the producer is unable to maintain the required 21 22 number of employees, the commissioner may extend this time period for not more three (3) years. The credit shall begin on the date 23 24 selected by the producer; however, the beginning date shall not be 25 more than five (5) years from the date the producer begins manufacturing or producing alternative energy. For the year in 26 which the beginning date occurs, the number of new full-time jobs 27 28 shall be determined by using the monthly average number of full-time employees subject to the Mississippi income tax 29 withholding. Thereafter, the number of new full-time jobs shall 30 31 be determined by comparing the monthly average number of full-time

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employees subject to the Mississippi income tax withholding for 32 33 the taxable year with the corresponding period of the prior 34 taxable year. Once a producer creates twenty-five (25) or more new full-time employee jobs, the producer shall be eligible for 35 36 the credit; however, if the producer is located in an area that 37 has been declared by the Governor to be a disaster area and as a 38 result of the disaster the producer is unable to maintain the required number of employees, the commissioner may waive the 39 40 employment requirement for a period of time not to exceed three 41 (3) years. The credit is not allowed for any year of the twenty-year period in which the overall monthly average number of 42 full-time employees subject to the Mississippi income tax 43 44 withholding falls below twenty-five (25). The State Tax 45 Commission shall adjust the credit allowed each year for the net new employment fluctuations above twenty-five (25). 46

47 (2) Any tax credit claimed under this section but not used 48 in any taxable year may be carried forward for five (5) consecutive years from the close of the tax year in which the 49 50 credits were earned; however, if the producer is located in an 51 area that has been declared by the Governor to be a disaster area 52 and as a result of the disaster the producer is unable to use the existing carryforward, the commissioner may extend the period that 53 54 the credit may be carried forward for a period of time not to exceed three (3) years. The credit that may be utilized each year 55 56 shall be limited to an amount not greater than the total state income tax liability of the producer that is generated by, or 57 58 arises out of, the alternative energy project.

59 (3) The tax credits provided for in this section shall be in 60 lieu of the tax credits provided for in Section 57-73-21 and any 61 producer utilizing the tax credit authorized in this section shall 62 not utilize the tax credit authorized in Section 57-73-21.

63 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from64 and after July 1, 2007.

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ST: Job tax credit for producers of alternative energy; the Chairman of the Tax Commission may extend time periods in event of a disaster.