

By: Representative Perkins

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1343

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI CIVIL  
2 RIGHTS MUSEUM IN LEFLORE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI  
3 CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM SHALL BE UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF  
4 THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
5 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY  
6 REGARDING THE MUSEUM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** The Legislature recognizes a need for a civil  
9 rights museum in Leflore County to promote the educational and  
10 social development of citizens within the county and throughout  
11 the state and to honor those persons who have made significant  
12 contributions toward the advancement of civil rights in  
13 Mississippi and the United States. The Legislature further  
14 recognizes that a civil rights museum would be of great economic  
15 and cultural importance to Leflore County and Mississippi.

16 **SECTION 2.** (1) A facility to house the Mississippi Civil  
17 Rights Museum shall be located in Leflore County.

18 (2) (a) The museum shall be under the supervision and  
19 control of the Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and  
20 History.

21 (b) The duties and powers of the Board of Trustees of  
22 the Department of Archives and History shall include, in addition  
23 to other duties and powers granted or prescribed by law, the  
24 following:

25 (i) To promulgate rules and regulations governing  
26 the operation of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum;

27 (ii) To promulgate rules and regulations governing  
28 the acquisition of furniture and furnishings, including, but not

29 limited to, paintings and objects of art and the acquisition of  
30 documents for the Leflore County Civil Rights Museum.

31 (iii) To promote the donation, bequest, devise or  
32 loaning of money or property, real or personal, from any agency of  
33 the United States, state or local government, any person, firm,  
34 corporation, association or group, for the purpose of the  
35 operation, administration and maintenance of the Leflore County  
36 Civil Rights Museum;

37 (iv) To acquire, preserve, restore or operate any  
38 real or personal property deemed significant for historical,  
39 architectural or cultural reasons, to expend funds for such  
40 purposes, to enter into contracts or agreements with any agency of  
41 the United States or any person, firm, corporation or association  
42 for the purpose of the operation, administration and maintenance  
43 of the Leflore County Civil Rights Museum, and to do any and all  
44 things which may be necessary or desirable to carry out such  
45 purpose; and

46 (v) To review and approve any major changes in the  
47 architecture, furnishings, objects of art and other matters  
48 effecting the repair, preservation, operation, maintenance or  
49 protection of property of the Leflore County Civil Rights Museum.

50 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
51 and after July 1, 2007.