

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2247

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM
 2 COMMISSION TO TRANSFER AND CONVEY TO JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY ALL
 3 OF ITS RIGHTS, TITLE AND INTEREST TO THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS
 4 MEMORIAL STADIUM AND ANY ADJOINING STATE-OWNED LAND UNDER ITS
 5 JURISDICTION; TO AMEND SECTIONS 55-23-13, 55-23-15, 55-23-17,
 6 55-23-19 AND 55-23-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY; TO
 7 REPEAL SECTIONS 55-23-1, 55-23-5, 55-23-7, 55-23-8, 55-23-9 AND
 8 55-23-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI
 9 VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM COMMISSION AND PROVIDE FOR THE
 10 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS MEMORIAL
 11 STADIUM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** The Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium
 14 Commission shall transfer and convey to Jackson State University
 15 all of its rights, title and interest to the Mississippi Veterans
 16 Memorial Stadium and any adjoining state-owned land under its
 17 jurisdiction. Upon such transfer and conveyance, the Mississippi
 18 Veterans Memorial Stadium Commission shall be dissolved.

19 **SECTION 2.** Section 55-23-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 20 amended as follows:

21 55-23-13. The Mississippi Department of Transportation is
 22 hereby authorized and empowered to maintain the driveways which
 23 lead to the Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium and are a part
 24 of the state-owned real property under the jurisdiction of Jackson
 25 State University. In carrying out this section, the department is
 26 authorized to use its personnel, funds, equipment and machinery,
 27 and it may accept donations of funds from Jackson State
 28 University, the City of Jackson and Hinds County, which funds are
 29 hereby authorized to be expended, and other grants and bequests
 30 for carrying out the provisions of this section.

31 **SECTION 3.** Section 55-23-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
32 amended as follows:

33 55-23-15. Jackson State University is hereby authorized to
34 utilize certain state-owned land in Hinds County bounded on the
35 east by North State Street, on the north by Taylor Street, on the
36 west by North West Street, and on the south by a street or
37 driveway known as Stadium Drive as a public parking facility
38 establishing reasonable rules and regulations connected with the
39 operation of such a facility, including fees for the privilege of
40 parking. The parking facilities shall not be extended any farther
41 to the east than as the facilities existed on January 1, 1996.
42 Further, the portion of the property described in this section,
43 except the property west of the stadium between the stadium and
44 North West Street, that was undeveloped as of January 1, 1996,
45 shall remain undeveloped unless the Legislature enacts legislation
46 approving the development of such property. The portion of the
47 property described in this section that is west of the stadium
48 between the stadium and North West Street may be developed to
49 provide parking facilities for the Mississippi Department of
50 Transportation offices located on North West Street. * * *

51 Jackson State University is authorized to lease such property
52 to the Mississippi Transportation Commission for parking
53 facilities for Department of Transportation offices * * *.

54 **SECTION 4.** Section 55-23-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
55 amended as follows:

56 55-23-17. Jackson State University is authorized to
57 establish penalties for tow-away or impoundment charges for
58 individual or corporate owners of vehicles violating such rules
59 and regulations; and such other general rules and regulations as
60 may be reasonably necessary.

61 **SECTION 5.** Section 55-23-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
62 amended as follows:

63 55-23-19. Prior to July 1, 2007, Jackson State University
64 shall contract with the University of Mississippi Medical Center
65 for provision by the medical center of funds in an amount
66 reasonable and necessary to provide the following maintenance of
67 parking facilities at the stadium:

- 68 (a) Adequate lighting;
- 69 (b) Routine care of the parking surface;
- 70 (c) Long-term resurfacing of any parking area utilized
71 by medical center employees, students and patients; and
- 72 (d) Security.

73 In consideration of the funds provided by the medical center,
74 the University of Mississippi Medical Center students, employees,
75 patients and visitors, and all other state employees, will be
76 exempt from payment of any fees imposed * * * for the use of the
77 parking facilities at the Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium
78 when there are no special events being held on the stadium
79 grounds.

80 **SECTION 6.** Section 55-23-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
81 amended as follows:

82 55-23-21. The Department of Finance and Administration is
83 hereby authorized and empowered, in addition to all other powers
84 and duties of such department, to enlarge and renovate the
85 Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium in order to provide for a
86 modern stadium having a seating capacity of approximately
87 sixty-two thousand seven hundred thirty-one (62,731) persons, such
88 authority to be conditioned upon a contribution by Hinds County,
89 Mississippi, to the Department of Finance and Administration of a
90 sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for such enlargement
91 and renovation. The parking facilities shall not be extended any
92 farther to the east than as the facilities existed on January 1,
93 1996. Further, the portion of the state-owned property on which
94 the stadium and parking facilities are located, except the
95 property west of the stadium between the stadium and North West

96 Street, that was undeveloped as of January 1, 1996, shall remain
97 undeveloped unless the Legislature enacts legislation approving
98 the development of such property. The portion of the state-owned
99 property on which the stadium is located that is west of the
100 stadium between the stadium and North West Street may be developed
101 to provide parking facilities for the Mississippi Department of
102 Transportation offices located on North West Street. * * *

103 **SECTION 7.** Sections 55-23-1, 55-23-5, 55-23-7, 55-23-8,
104 55-23-9 and 55-23-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, which create the
105 Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium Commission and provide for
106 the management and operation of the Mississippi Veterans Memorial
107 Stadium, are hereby repealed.

108 **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
109 and after July 1, 2007.