

By: Representatives Morgan, Dixon

To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 1333
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI HONEY PRODUCERS ADVISORY
2 COUNCIL; TO PROVIDE FOR A REVIEW BY THE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
3 LAWS REGULATING THE PRODUCTION OF HONEY IN MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE
4 FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MISSISSIPPI HONEY PRODUCERS ADVISORY
5 COUNCIL; TO REQUIRE THAT THE COUNCIL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND
6 RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS, IF ANY, TO THE LEGISLATURE NO LATER THAN
7 NOVEMBER 30, 2018; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created the Mississippi Honey
10 Producers Advisory Council. The purpose of the advisory council
11 is to review the laws and regulations governing the production of
12 honey in Mississippi to determine if those laws and regulations
13 address the concerns of the industry or if those laws and
14 regulations need revision to address the concerns of the industry,
15 and to prepare and develop its findings and recommendations in a
16 written report to the Legislature.

17 (2) The Mississippi Honey Producers Advisory Council shall
18 be composed of ten (10) members of the Executive Board of the
19 Mississippi Beekeepers Association. There shall be two (2) staff
20 members from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and



21 Commerce, two (2) staff members from the Mississippi State
22 Department of Health, and one (1) staff member from Mississippi
23 State University Extension Service at each meeting of the advisory
24 council to provide technical assistance. The council may seek
25 input from all of the aforementioned state agencies.

26 (3) The president of the association shall be the chair of
27 the Mississippi Honey Producers Advisory Council. The chair shall
28 be responsible for calling meetings of the council and conducting
29 the meetings. The council shall elect a vice chair to serve as
30 secretary who shall be responsible for keeping all records and
31 minutes of the advisory council. All members shall be notified in
32 writing of all meetings; such notices shall be mailed or emailed,
33 as determined by the council, at least fifteen (15) days before
34 the date on which a meeting is to be held. Members of the
35 advisory council shall not be compensated or reimbursed for travel
36 expenses. Notice of meetings of the advisory council shall be
37 provided to the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, the
38 Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, and the state
39 agencies and institutions referenced in subsection (2) of this
40 section at least fifteen (15) days prior to said meeting.

41 (4) Meetings shall be conducted at either the Mississippi
42 Department of Agriculture and Commerce or the Mississippi State
43 Department of Health, depending on meeting space availability.
44 The agencies are directed to work with the chair to provide



45 meeting space. The advisory council shall meet and organize
46 thirty (30) days after the passage of this act.

47 (5) A majority of the members of the advisory council shall
48 constitute a quorum. In the selection of the vice chair, and the
49 adoption of rules, minutes, findings and recommendations, an
50 affirmative vote of a majority of the advisory council shall be
51 required.

52 (6) No later than November 30, 2018, the council shall
53 report its findings and recommendation in writing to the Chairman
54 of the Senate Agriculture Committee and the Chairman of the House
55 Agriculture Committee. After submitting the recommendation and
56 findings required in subsection (1) of this section, the
57 Mississippi Honey Producers Advisory Council shall be dissolved.

58 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
59 and after its passage.

