

By: Representative Weathersby

To: Public Property

HOUSE BILL NO. 1353
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL
2 CENTER TO REARRANGE, DISINTER, REMOVE OR REINTER, WHERE
3 APPLICABLE, HUMAN REMAINS REPOSING IN THE POTTER'S FIELD ON THE
4 PROPERTY OF THE MEDICAL CENTER TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION ON THE
5 MEDICAL CENTER'S PROPERTY; TO REPEAL SECTION 2, CHAPTER 846, LOCAL
6 AND PRIVATE LAWS OF 1973, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER 854, LAWS OF 1974,
7 WHICH AUTHORIZES THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER TO
8 TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS REGARDING HUMAN REMAINS IN THE POTTER'S FIELD
9 ON ITS PROPERTY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) The University of Mississippi Medical Center
12 is authorized, in its discretion, to rearrange or disinter, remove
13 or reinter, where applicable, human remains reposing in the
14 potter's field located on the University of Mississippi Medical
15 Center's property to a different location on the medical center's
16 property when the disinterment, removal or reinterment, where
17 applicable, is necessary for proper and efficient maintenance and
18 management.

19 (2) Markers, headstones, or other identification shall
20 accompany the remains whenever identification exists, and a record
21 of the removal and reinterment, where applicable, shall be



maintained in the files of the chancery clerk of Hinds County,
Mississippi.

(3) Before taking any action authorized under this section,
the University of Mississippi Medical Center shall first advertise
its intent to rearrange, disinter, remove or reinter, where
applicable, remains from the property by publishing notice in a
newspaper of the county once a week for three (3) consecutive
weeks.

(4) The University of Mississippi Medical Center and its
officers and employees shall be immune from any action or suit
arising from the maintenance or attempted maintenance of the
potter's field and the rearrangement, removal or reinterment, where applicable, of remains, when performed in good faith under
authority of this section.

SECTION 2. Section 2, Chapter 846, Local and Private Laws of
1973, as amended by Chapter 854, Laws of 1974, which authorizes
the University of Mississippi Medical Center to take certain
actions regarding human remains in the potter's field on its
property, is repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after its passage.

