

By: Representatives Reynolds, Kinkade, To: Public Property
Aguirre, Arnold, Bain, Banks, Barnett,
Barton, Bell (21st), Bounds, Boyd
(19th), Brown (20th), Burnett, Byrd,
Calvert, Carpenter, Clark, Crudup,
Darnell, Deweese, Faulkner, Ford (54th), Ford (73rd), Gibbs,
Goodin, Haney, Hines, Holloway, Hood, Horan, Hulum, Johnson,
Karriem, Lancaster, Mangold, Massengill, McCarty, McLeod, Miles,
Morgan, Newman, Oliver, Patterson, Pigott, Powell, Roberson,
Rushing, Sanders, Sanford, Scott, Smith, Steverson, Summers,
Taylor, Thompson, Tubb, Tullos, Turner, Walker, Weathersby, Young,
Horne

HOUSE BILL NO. 923

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 49-4-37 AND 57-61-32, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO DESIGNATE THE FISH HATCHERY THAT IS LOCATED IN
3 NORTH MISSISSIPPI AS THE BOB TYLER FISH HATCHERY; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-4-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-4-37. (1) The Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and
9 Parks may establish and operate a fish hatchery in North
10 Mississippi, to be named the Bob Tyler Fish Hatchery, at a site to
11 be determined by the department with the approval of the
12 commission to enable the department to adequately stock public
13 lakes and streams in North Mississippi. For such purpose, the
14 department shall use those funds that are made available by any
15 agency of the state or federal government, an appropriation by the
16 Legislature or any other source. The department is designated as
17 the governing authority of any such fish hatchery and the
18 operation and maintenance of the fish hatchery shall meet the



19 standards of the department and state law regarding the operation
20 of a fish hatchery. The department may accept funds from any
21 source and those funds shall be used to pay the maintenance,
22 operational and administrative expenses of the fish hatchery.

23 (2) The Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District is
24 authorized to transfer to the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries
25 and Parks fee title of no more than eighty (80) acres of approved
26 replacement land to be surveyed from the following tract of land:

27 The Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of
28 Section 20, Township 12, Range 8, Monroe County,
29 Mississippi, containing 40 acres more or less.

30 All that land in the Northeast Quarter; north of a
31 line starting at monument stamped "LA-42A"; and running
32 northeasterly to a monument stamped "LA-43", Section 20,
33 Township 12, Range 8, Monroe County, Mississippi,
34 containing 105.42 acres more or less.

35 The land shall be transferred once an acceptable lease
36 agreement between the Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
37 Fisheries and Parks and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is
38 secured and the department is given the authority and
39 appropriation to construct a fish hatchery.

40 (3) The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and
41 Parks shall have the authority to transfer the land necessary to
42 reach the equal value for lands offered by the U.S. Army Corps of
43 Engineers for the construction of a fish hatchery.



44 **SECTION 2.** Section 57-61-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
45 amended as follows:

46 57-61-32. (1) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter
47 to the contrary, the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
48 shall certify to the department the amount of money necessary to
49 defray the cost of the state's share in constructing the * * * Bob
50 Tyler Fish Hatchery that is located in North Mississippi, which
51 amount shall not be more than Four Million Dollars
52 (\$4,000,000.00); and the department shall, if funds have not
53 otherwise been made available, provide a grant for such amount out
54 of the proceeds of bonds issued under this chapter. Of the funds
55 provided hereunder, any amounts not expended on the fish hatchery
56 shall be remitted to the department for deposit into the
57 Mississippi Business Investment Sinking Fund.

58 The private match requirements of Section 57-61-9(2)(d),
59 Mississippi Code of 1972, shall not apply to any loan or grant
60 made under this section.

61 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the
62 contrary, the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall
63 certify to the department the amount of money necessary to defray
64 the costs of the state's share in constructing the water diversion
65 project on the lower East Pearl River, beginning at the Wilson
66 Slough Breakout down through the Farris Slough and Holmes Bayou to
67 the Hobolochitto Creek, which amount shall not be more than Four
68 Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00); and if the United States Army



69 Corps of Engineers receives approval for the construction of such
70 project, and if the United States has committed funding for the
71 project, then the department shall provide a grant for such amount
72 out of the proceeds of bonds issued under this chapter. Of the
73 funds provided in this subsection, any amounts not expended on the
74 project described herein shall be remitted to the department for
75 deposit into the Mississippi Business Investment Sinking Fund.
76 The provisions of this subsection (2) shall stand repealed from
77 and after December 31, 2002.

78 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
79 and after July 1, 2023.

