

By: Representative Lamar

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1293  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 31-7-15.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO REQUIRE STATE AGENCIES TO GIVE A PURCHASING PREFERENCE TO  
3 DRONES MANUFACTURED IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; TO PROHIBIT STATE  
4 AGENCIES FROM PURCHASING OR OPERATING DRONES MANUFACTURED OR  
5 ASSEMBLED FROM PARTS MANUFACTURED IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
6 CHINA; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL NOT APPLY  
7 TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING WITH A FEDERALLY DESIGNATED  
8 RESEARCH CENTER ON UNCREWED SYSTEMS AND RELATED MATTERS; AND FOR  
9 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section  
12 31-7-15.1, Mississippi Code of 1972:

13 31-7-15.1. (1) Whenever two (2) or more competitive bids  
14 relating to the purchase of one or more drones are received by an  
15 agency, if all things stated in the received bids are equal with  
16 respect to price, quality and service, any drones manufactured  
17 within this state must be given first preference. Whenever a  
18 purchase of one or more drones may be made without competitive  
19 bids, a similar first preference must be given to any drones  
20 manufactured within the state.



21           (2) An agency may not purchase or operate a drone  
22 manufactured in the People's Republic of China. For purposes of  
23 this section, the term "manufactured" includes a drone that is  
24 assembled in a country other than the People's Republic of China  
25 but which is comprised of more than a negligible amount of parts,  
26 components or raw materials originating in the People's Republic  
27 of China.

28           (3) This section shall not apply to an institution of higher  
29 learning with a federally designated research center on uncrewed  
30 systems and related matters.

31           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
32 and after July 1, 2023.

