

By: Representative Hale

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1378

1 AN ACT TO PLACE A MORATORIUM ON MUNICIPAL ANNEXATIONS FOR A  
 2 ONE YEAR PERIOD UNTIL THE PEER COMMITTEE COMPLETES A COMPREHENSIVE  
 3 REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF THE EFFICACY OF STATE POLICIES CONCERNING  
 4 ANNEXATION; TO REQUIRE THAT THE RESULTS OF THE REVIEW AND  
 5 EVALUATION SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE CHAIRMEN OF THE HOUSE AND  
 6 SENATE MUNICIPALITIES COMMITTEES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of  
 9 law to the contrary, from July 1, 2023, through July 1, 2024, no  
 10 municipality shall extend its corporate limits by means of  
 11 annexation by ordinance upon the municipality's own initiative  
 12 pursuant to Section 21-1-27 in order to annex territory being used  
 13 for residential or agricultural purposes, and except as otherwise  
 14 permitted under paragraph (b) of this subsection, no such  
 15 ordinance to annex such territory shall become operative during  
 16 such period.

17 (b) If prior to July 1, 2023, a municipality formally  
 18 initiated an annexation ordinance delayed by paragraph (a) of this  
 19 subsection, and if the municipality would suffer substantial and  
 20 demonstrable financial injury if the ordinance does not become



21 operative prior to July 1, 2024, then upon petition by the  
22 municipality, the board of supervisors may, by a majority vote of  
23 its membership, waive the restrictions imposed on such ordinance  
24 pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection.

25 (2) On or before January 1, 2024, the Joint Legislative  
26 Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER)  
27 shall complete a comprehensive review and evaluation of the  
28 efficacy of state polices set out under Sections 21-1-27 through  
29 21-1-41 as well as any other relevant laws pertaining to  
30 annexation and shall submit a written report of its findings and  
31 recommendations, including any proposed legislation to the  
32 Chairmen of the House and Senate Municipalities Committees.

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

