

**Adopted
AMENDMENT NO 2 PROPOSED TO**

House Bill No. 280

BY: Representative Currie

1 **AMEND** by striking Sections 1 through 5, lines 25-123, in
2 their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following
3 language and renumbering the succeeding sections:

4 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a study committee for the
5 purpose of studying the purchasing, acquiring, leasing or holding
6 an interest in agricultural land by foreign government. The
7 committee shall be comprised of the following nine (9) members:

8 (a) The Commissioner of Department of Agriculture and
9 Commerce, or his or her designee;

10 (b) The Attorney General, or his or her designee;

11 (c) The Chairman of the House Judiciary B Committee;

12 (d) The Chairman of the Senate Judiciary B Committee;

13 (e) The Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee;



14 (f) The Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee;
15 (g) One (1) person to be appointed by the Governor;
16 (h) One (1) person to be appointed by the Lieutenant
17 Governor; and

18 (i) One (1) person to be appointed by the Speaker of
19 the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of
20 Farm Bureau.

21 (2) Appointments to the study committee shall be made within
22 thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act. At the first
23 meeting, the committee shall elect from among its membership a
24 chairman, a vice chairman and any other officers determined to be
25 necessary, and shall adopt rules for transacting business and
26 keeping records. The study committee shall develop and report its
27 findings to the Legislature on or before December 1, 2023.

28 (3) A majority of the members of the study committee shall
29 constitute a quorum. In the adoption of rules, resolutions and
30 reports, and in the election of a chairman, vice chairman and any
31 other officers determined to be necessary, an affirmative vote of
32 a majority of the members present shall be required.

33 (4) To effectuate the purposes of this act, any department,
34 division, board, bureau, committee, institution or agency of the
35 state, or any political subdivision thereof, shall, at the request
36 of the chairman of the study committee, provide the facilities,
37 assistance, information and data needed to enable the study
38 committee to carry out its duties.



39 (5) The study committee shall study at least the following
40 information:

41 (a) The total amount of agricultural land that is under
42 foreign ownership;

43 (b) The percentage change in foreign ownership of
44 agricultural land in Mississippi, by year, over the past ten (10)
45 years;

46 (c) The purpose to which foreign-owned agricultural
47 land in Mississippi is being put to use currently, including any
48 significant recent changes or trends in the use to which foreign-
49 owned agricultural land in Mississippi is being put to use;

50 (d) Information regarding the extent of, and any recent
51 changes in, foreign ownership of water rights in Mississippi;

52 (e) Information regarding the extent of, and any recent
53 changes in, foreign ownership of water desalination facilities in
54 Mississippi;

55 (f) Information regarding the extent of, and any recent
56 changes in, foreign ownership of energy production, storage or
57 distribution facilities in Mississippi;

58 (g) The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and
59 Commerce's assessment of the impact of any recent changes in
60 foreign ownership of agricultural land in Mississippi, water
61 rights and food security;



62 (h) Any current prohibitions on the foreign ownership
63 of Mississippi land and why such prohibitions are not being
64 enforced; and

65 (i) Any legislative, regulatory or administrative
66 policy changes the department recommends in light of the
67 information in the report.

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69 **AMEND further** by inserting the following language on line 125
70 after "2023": ", and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2023."

71 **AMEND title to conform.**

