

By: Representative Hobgood-Wilkes

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

HOUSE BILL NO. 1491

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 39-5-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 39-5-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 39-5-3. The Department of Archives and History shall be
8 under the control of a board of nine (9) trustees. * * * From and
9 after July 1, 2024, the board shall be reconstituted to consist of
10 nine (9) trustees, eight (8) trustees from each of the four (4)
11 congressional districts, two (2) trustees from each district, as
12 such districts existed on July 1, 2024, and one (1) trustee to be
13 selected from the state at large, all of whom shall be appointed
14 by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The
15 initial appointments to the board shall be for staggered terms, to
16 be designated by the Governor at the time of appointment as
17 follows: two (2) trustees to serve for five (5) years, two (2)
18 trustees to serve for four (4) years, two (2) trustees to serve



19 for three (3) years, two (2) trustees to serve for two (2) years,
20 and one (1) member, the at-large trustee, to serve for one (1)
21 year. When the board is reconstituted on July 1, 2024, all
22 trustees serving on the board on that date shall continue to serve
23 for a term of one (1) year. After the initial appointments, all
24 trustees chosen to succeed the present members or their successors
25 shall serve for a term of six (6) years. The board of trustees
26 shall hold at the State Capitol at least one (1) regular meeting
27 during the year, and as many special meetings as may be necessary,
28 and at * * * those meetings five (5) members shall constitute a
29 quorum. The Director of the Department of Archives and History,
30 hereinafter provided, shall be secretary of the board. The
31 trustees shall receive no compensation for their services other
32 than the amount of their necessary expenses actually paid out
33 while in attendance on the meetings of the board or the business
34 of the department. The board is empowered to adopt rules for its
35 own government and for the government of the department, to elect
36 and fix the compensation of a director not to exceed the maximum
37 set by the Legislature, and other officials or employees, and to
38 do and perform such other acts and things as may be necessary to
39 carry out the true intent and purposes of this chapter.

40 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
41 and after July 1, 2024.

