

By: Senator(s) Younger, Chassaniol,  
Blackwell, Polk, Kirby, McMahan

To: Accountability,  
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2484

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTIONS 49-16-1 AND 49-16-3,  
2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
3 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE  
4 RESOURCES, AND THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP A  
5 PLAN FOR COASTAL RESILIENCY AND RESTORATION; AND FOR RELATED  
6 PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section  
9 49-16-1, Mississippi Code of 1972:

10 49-16-1. The Department of Environmental Quality, the  
11 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, and the Mississippi  
12 Development Authority shall be responsible for developing a master  
13 plan for coastal resiliency and restoration. These departments  
14 are authorized to utilize their staffs to accomplish this plan.

15 **SECTION 2.** The following shall be codified as Section  
16 49-16-3, Mississippi Code of 1972:

17 49-16-3. (1) The agencies set out in Section 1 of this act  
18 shall be responsible for developing a master plan for coastal  
19 resiliency and restoration which shall be revised as deemed  
20 necessary by the agencies. Representatives of the three (3)



21 agencies shall meet at least once annually to determine what steps  
22 need to be taken in association with the development and  
23 modifications to the resiliency and restoration master plan.

24 (2) Respecting the development of a coastal resiliency and  
25 restoration master plan, the agencies' duties and responsibilities  
26 are as follows:

27 (a) To identify priority-need areas;

28 (b) To identify and define the state's goals and  
29 objectives for the state's coastal resiliency and restoration  
30 efforts;

31 (c) To identify metrics and criteria by which to assess  
32 the impact of the state's coastal resiliency and restoration  
33 efforts and a method for monitoring such efforts;

34 (d) To identify the available funding sources that  
35 could be used to carry out a coastal resiliency and restoration  
36 master plan, including the limitations of each funding source. In  
37 carrying out this duty, the committee shall not be limited to a  
38 particular agency program or funding stream;

39 (e) To identify strategies to collaborate and leverage  
40 state, federal, and local funding; and

41 (f) To identify any changes in statutes, regulations,  
42 or structure that need to be amended to better support the state's  
43 coastal resiliency and restoration process.

44 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
45 and after July 1, 2024.

