

By: Representatives Byrd, Watson, Tubb

To: Corrections

HOUSE BILL NO. 1079

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-931, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
3 WITH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF FORREST COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, FOR
4 THE HOUSING OF STATE INMATES IN ITS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-5-931, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 47-5-931. (1) The Department of Corrections, in its
10 discretion, may contract with the board of supervisors of one or
11 more counties or with a regional facility operated by one or more
12 counties, to provide for housing, care and control of offenders
13 who are in the custody of the State of Mississippi. Any facility
14 owned or leased by a county or counties for this purpose shall be
15 designed, constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with
16 American Correctional Association standards, and shall comply with
17 all constitutional standards of the United States and the State of
18 Mississippi, and with all court orders that may now or hereinafter
19 be applicable to the facility. If the Department of Corrections



contracts with more than one (1) county to house state offenders in county correctional facilities, excluding a regional facility, then the first of such facilities shall be constructed in Sharkey County and the second of such facilities shall be constructed in Jefferson County.

(2) The Department of Corrections shall contract with the board of supervisors of the following counties to house state inmates in regional facilities: (a) Marion and Walthall Counties; (b) Carroll and Montgomery Counties; (c) Stone and Pearl River Counties; (d) Winston and Choctaw Counties; (e) Kemper and Neshoba Counties; (f) Alcorn County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (g) Yazoo County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (h) Chickasaw County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (i) George and Greene Counties and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (j) Washington County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (k) Hinds County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (l) Leake County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (m) Issaquena County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (n) Jefferson County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (o) Franklin County and any contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved jail; (p) Holmes County and any



45 contiguous county in which there is located an unapproved
46 jail; * * * (q) Bolivar County and any contiguous county in which
47 there is located an unapproved jail; and (r) Forrest County. The
48 Department of Corrections shall decide the order of priority of
49 the counties listed in this subsection with which it will contract
50 for the housing of state inmates. For the purposes of this
51 subsection, the term "unapproved jail" means any jail that the
52 local grand jury determines should be condemned or has found to be
53 of substandard condition or in need of substantial repair or
54 reconstruction.

55 (3) In addition to the offenders authorized to be housed
56 under subsection (1) of this section, the Department of
57 Corrections may contract with any regional facility to provide for
58 housing, care and control of not more than seventy-five (75)
59 additional offenders who are in the custody of the State of
60 Mississippi.

61 (4) The Governor and the Commissioner of Corrections are
62 authorized to increase administratively the number of offenders
63 who are in the custody of the State of Mississippi that can be
64 placed in regional correctional facilities.

65 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
66 and after July 1, 2025.

