

By: Representative Malone

To: Penitentiary;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 531

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-943, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS THAT MAY BE HOUSED BY
3 THE WALNUT GROVE CORRECTIONAL AUTHORITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 47-5-943, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 47-5-943. The Mississippi Department of Corrections shall
8 contract with the Walnut Grove Correctional Authority or the
9 governing authorities of the Municipality of Walnut Grove, Leake
10 County, Mississippi, to provide for the private housing, care and
11 control of up to one thousand (1,000) juvenile offenders who are
12 in the custody of the Department of Corrections at a maximum
13 security facility in Walnut Grove. The maximum age of any
14 offender housed in this facility shall be nineteen (19) years. A
15 county or circuit judge shall not order any juvenile to be housed
16 in the correctional facility authorized in Sections 47-5-943
17 through 47-5-953. Commitment of juvenile offenders shall not be
18 to this facility, but shall be to the jurisdiction of the
19 department. The commissioner shall assign newly sentenced
20 offenders to an appropriate facility consistent with public
21 safety. Any facility owned or leased by the Walnut Grove
22 Correctional Authority or the Municipality of Walnut Grove for
23 this purpose shall be designed, constructed, operated and
24 maintained in accordance with American Correctional Association
25 standards, and shall comply with all constitutional standards of
26 the United States and the State of Mississippi and with all court
27 orders that may now or hereinafter be applicable to the facility.



28 The contract must comply with Sections 47-5-1211 through
29 47-5-1227.

30 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
31 and after July 1, 2001.

