

By: Representative Ellington

To: Public Health and Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 1670
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-26-101, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT BOARD MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS
3 SHALL DESIGNATE ONE MEMBER TO ATTEND MANAGEMENT TRAINING; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-26-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 *41-26-101. (1) The governing board of any community public*
9 *water system, of which the members are elected or reelected after*
10 *June 30, 2001, shall designate one (1) member of the board who*
11 *shall attend a minimum of eight (8) hours of management training*
12 *within two (2) years following the designation of that board*
13 *member. Any board member failing to complete the management*
14 *training within two (2) years after his designation shall be*
15 *subject to removal from the board by the remaining members. If a*
16 *board member has undergone training and is reelected to the board,*
17 *that person shall not be required to attend training as provided*
18 *by this subsection.*

19 (2) The management training shall be organized by the State
20 Department of Health, in cooperation with the Mississippi Rural
21 Water Association and other organizations. The management
22 training shall include information on water system management and
23 financing, rate setting and structures, operations and
24 maintenance, applicable laws and regulations, ethics, the duties
25 and responsibilities of a board member and other information
26 deemed necessary by the department after consultation with the
27 association and other organizations. The department shall develop
28 and provide all training materials. The department may charge a



29 fee not to exceed Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) per member to
30 defray the actual costs of providing the materials and training.
31 These costs shall be reimbursed to the board member as an expense
32 of the community public water system.

33 (3) To avoid board members and elected officials having to
34 interfere with their jobs or employment, management training
35 sessions may be divided into segments and, to the greatest extent
36 possible, shall be scheduled for evening sessions. The department
37 shall conduct management training on a regional basis and shall
38 use community college or other public facilities for the
39 convenience of board members.

40 (4) The department may make exceptions to and grant
41 exemptions and variances to the requirements of this section for
42 good cause shown.

43 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
44 and after July 1, 2002.

