

By: Representative Peranich

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1212

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 39-5-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL DUTY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY; TO REQUIRE THE BOARD TO  
4 INVENTORY CERTAIN BUILDINGS IN THE MISSISSIPPI-YAZOO DELTA; AND  
5 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

9 39-5-5. The duties and powers of the Board of Trustees of  
10 the Department of Archives and History shall include, in addition  
11 to other duties and powers granted or prescribed by law, the  
12 following:

13 (a) To determine the location of places of historical  
14 interest within the state;

15 (b) To make a survey of buildings of all types  
16 throughout the state which are in danger of destruction, without  
17 proper care, and which in the opinion of the board of trustees  
18 should be preserved for historical purposes;

19 (c) To contact the proper authorities of the United  
20 States national cemeteries and military parks to determine whether  
21 or not the record of Mississippi troops is adequately  
22 commemorated;

23 (d) To acquire, preserve, restore or operate any real  
24 or personal property deemed significant for historical,  
25 architectural, archaeological or cultural reasons, to expend funds  
26 for such purposes, to enter into contracts or agreements with any  
27 agency of the United States or any person, firm, corporation or

28 association for such purposes and to do any and all things which  
29 may be necessary or desirable to carry out such purposes;

30 (e) To participate with any agency of the United  
31 States, any other governmental agency or any person, firm,  
32 corporation, association or group in mutual or cooperative  
33 programs or projects within the duties and powers of the board of  
34 trustees;

35 (f) To accept grants or donations of money or property,  
36 real or personal, from any agency of the United States, any other  
37 governmental agency or any person, firm, corporation, association  
38 or group. However, the board of trustees shall not be required,  
39 except by specific act of the Legislature, to accept any property  
40 without its consent; \* \* \*

41 (g) To provide suitable markers with adequate  
42 descriptions of the historical sites to which they refer, for  
43 places of historical interest and to provide suitable markers on  
44 the highways and roads of this state showing the direction and  
45 distance to the historical sites; and

46 (h) To inventory and assess all houses and buildings of  
47 historical and architectural significance, located in the  
48 Mississippi-Yazoo Delta, that are in danger of destruction or  
49 neglect.

50 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
51 and after July 1, 2005.