

By: Representatives Perkins, Whittington

To: Local and Private
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1790
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEFLORE
2 COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN AREAS OF THE COUNTY AS
3 HERITAGE SITES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The Board of Supervisors of Leflore County, in
6 its discretion, may designate the following areas within Leflore
7 County as heritage sites: Black Site in Greenwood, Black Site #2
8 in Sidon, Falls Site in Minter City, Lane's Chapel Site in Money,
9 McLean Site in Itta Bena, Murphy Site in Itta Bena, Neill
10 Archeological Site in Whaley, Rebecca Site in Sidon, Stratton
11 Archeological Site in Sidon, Stratton Site #2 in Sidon, Sweethome
12 Mound in Wakeland, Whaley Archeological Site in Whaley, Grand
13 Boulevard Subdivision Historic District, Central Commercial and
14 Railroad Historic District, Cotton Row Historic District, Four
15 Corners Historic District, River Road and Western Downtown,
16 Residential Historic District, Wesley Methodist Church Historic
17 District, Williams Landing and Easter Downtown Residential
18 Historic District in Greenwood, Malmaison Wildlife Refuge,
19 Cottonlandia Museum, Robert Johnson Memorial, which is between
20 Itta Bena and Morgan City; Robert Johnson's Tombstone in Quito,
21 Lusco's, St. James Cemetery, Money, Mississippi; Browning,
22 Mississippi; Brooks Farming Community which borders Leflore and
23 Sunflower Counties; Alluvian Hotel, Baptist Town in Greenwood (at
24 the corner of Pelican Street and Young Street where Robert Johnson
25 played and died), New Zion Baptist Church in Greenwood and
26 Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena.

27 **SECTION 2.** The purpose of the designations, as described in
28 Section 1 of this act, are to:

29 (a) Forge public and private partnerships that result
30 in creative coalitions aimed toward conserving and preserving the
31 intrinsic values contained within the Leflore County area that is
32 rich in heritage, culture, recreation, historic and natural
33 resources;

34 (b) Establish central coordination of efforts that
35 bring together local, state and federal governments, directly or
36 indirectly, in designing, establishing and maintaining physical,
37 educational and social structures that support tourism
38 enterprises, repositories of culture and interpretive centers that
39 promote the Delta's heritage and cultural assets;

40 (c) Develop collective approaches to increasing public
41 awareness of and appreciation for the historic, scenic, natural,
42 and cultural resources and sites in the trace area;

43 (d) Create incentives for the coming together of
44 private and nonprofit cultural organizations dedicated to the
45 restoration of any historic building or structure and of any
46 damaged or impaired natural systems or features in the trace area;

47 (e) Identify and utilize educational institutions that
48 serve as repositories for ethnic and African-American history and
49 culture, the Civil Rights struggle, post-Civil War maroon
50 communities, Rosenwald schools and the Delta region's early
51 pioneers to current history makers; and

52 (f) Encourage, by appropriate means, enhanced economic
53 development of Leflore County that is consistent with the goals of
54 community and regional development.

55 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
56 and after July 1, 2005.