

By: Representative Staples

To: Conservation and Water Resources

HOUSE BILL NO. 1519

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-26-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 DELETE THE EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS FROM THE
3 REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT;
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-26-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 41-26-5. (1) In addition to any other duties required by
9 law, the board shall have the following powers and duties
10 concerning safe drinking water:

11 (a) To establish policies, requirements or standards
12 governing the source, collection, distribution, purification,
13 treatment and storage of water for public water systems as it
14 deems necessary for the provision of safe drinking water;

15 (b) To adopt, modify, repeal and promulgate, after due
16 notice and hearing and in accordance with the Mississippi
17 Administrative Procedures Law and Section 41-26-6, and where not
18 otherwise prohibited by federal or state law, to make exceptions
19 to and grant exemptions and variances from, and to enforce rules
20 and regulations implementing the powers and duties of the board
21 under this chapter;

22 (c) To enter into, and to authorize the director to
23 execute contracts, grants and cooperative agreements with, any
24 federal or state agency or subdivision thereof, interstate agency,
25 or any other person in connection with carrying out this chapter;
26 and

27 (d) To discharge other powers, duties and
28 responsibilities which may be necessary to implement this chapter.

29 (2) * * * Regulations adopted under this section shall apply
30 to each public water system in the state.

31 * * *

32 (3) The board shall develop and implement a technical
33 assistance program to help existing potentially nonviable
34 community public water systems to become viable and to improve the
35 technical, managerial or financial capabilities of small community
36 public water systems. In developing this program, the board shall
37 work cooperatively with organizations that currently provide
38 training and assistance to public water systems.

39 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after July 1, 2007.