

By: Senator(s) Wilemon

To: Public Property;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2029
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND
2 ADMINISTRATION TO LEASE OR PURCHASE A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY
3 LOCATED ON WOODALL MOUNTAIN IN TISHOMINGO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, FOR
4 THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A TOURIST ATTRACTION; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Department of Finance and
8 Administration, upon meeting the requirements of Section 29-1-1,
9 may lease or purchase a parcel of real property not to exceed two
10 (2) acres located on Woodall Mountain in Tishomingo County,
11 Mississippi, for the purpose of creating a tourist attraction.

12 (2) (a) If leased, the real property described in
13 subsection (1) of this section shall not be leased for more than
14 the current fair market value as determined by the Department of
15 Finance and Administration.

16 (b) If purchased, the real property described in
17 subsection (1) of this section shall not be purchased for more
18 than the current fair market value as determined by the averaging
19 of at least two (2) appraisals by qualified appraisers who shall
20 be selected by the Department of Finance and Administration and
21 shall be certified and licensed by the Mississippi Real Estate
22 Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board. The amount paid by
23 the State of Mississippi for this purchase shall not be more than
24 Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00).

25 (3) The Department of Finance and Administration may obtain
26 appraisals of the property, abstracts and surveys and engage the
27 services of attorneys to conduct the transaction described in this
28 section. The department may obtain title insurance on the real

29 property if it determines that the best interest of the department
30 would be served.

31 (4) The real property described in subsection (1) of this
32 section may be maintained by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries
33 and Parks, or local government entities and shall be used as a
34 tourist attraction.

35 (5) The Department of Transportation shall construct and
36 maintain an access road to the real property described in
37 subsection (1).

38 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
39 and after its passage.