

By: Senator(s) Thomas

To: Environment Prot, Cons
and Water Res; Public
Property

SENATE BILL NO. 2106

1 AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE USE OF THE LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND
2 ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED) GREEN BUILDING RATING SYSTEM STANDARDS
3 IN PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS; TO ENCOURAGE STATE AGENCIES
4 AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS TO SEEK LEED CERTIFICATION IN NEW AND
5 RENOVATION PROJECTS TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE; TO ENCOURAGE THE
6 USE OF CERTAIN WOOD AND BIO-BASED MATERIALS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE
7 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DEVELOP AN EDUCATION AND
8 OUTREACH PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE UTILIZATION OF LEED STANDARDS;
9 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) As used in this section, the term "LEED
12 certification" means certification as complying with the
13 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green
14 Building Rating System standards relevant to the type of building.

15 (2) (a) When planning, altering, renovating, constructing
16 and maintaining buildings, state agencies and political
17 subdivisions are encouraged to consider conducting such activities
18 in compliance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
19 (LEED) Green Building Rating System standards to the greatest
20 extent practicable. Each agency and political subdivision is
21 encouraged to seek LEED certification at the earliest stage of
22 activity and throughout the life of the building.

23 (b) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged
24 to use composite wood and agrifiber products if the products are
25 certified as meeting the American National Standards Institute
26 standard requirements for formaldehyde emissions or contain no
27 added urea-formaldehyde. Each agency and political subdivision is
28 encouraged to use renewable, bio-based materials that are either
29 residuals of or products grown or harvested under a recognized
30 sustainable management system such as the Forest Stewardship

31 Council, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program, the American
32 Tree Farm System, the Canadian Standards Association, the Organic
33 Trade Association, and the Association for Bamboo in Construction.
34 Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to use
35 renewable, bio-based raw materials certified in accordance with
36 certification programs for environmental management.
37 Certification programs include, but are not limited to, the Forest
38 Stewardship Council, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program,
39 the American Tree Farm System, the Canadian Standards Association,
40 the Organic Trade Association, and the Association for Bamboo in
41 Construction.

42 (3) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to
43 include a provision in all leases to emphasize LEED certification.

44 (4) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to
45 expeditiously assess its procurement policies and procedures to
46 ensure the promotion of environmentally sustainable building
47 practices incorporated in LEED standards.

48 (5) It is the duty of the Department of Environmental
49 Quality, if funds are available, to develop and promote a
50 coordinated outreach and education program to increase public
51 awareness and utilization of LEED certification and standards in
52 the design and construction of commercial buildings.

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