

By: Senator(s) Dawkins

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2366

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE HURRICANE KATRINA MEMORIAL COMMISSION TO  
2 DETERMINE THE TYPE AND SITE OF AN APPROPRIATE STATE MEMORIAL FOR  
3 THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN MISSISSIPPI AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE  
4 KATRINA; TO PROVIDE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP AND DUTIES; TO PROVIDE FOR  
5 A COMMISSION REPORT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) (a) The Legislature of Mississippi hereby  
8 recognizes that the events of August 29, 2005, and the days  
9 following, when Hurricane Katrina struck Mississippi a deadly blow  
10 and so many in Mississippi lost their lives, are among the most  
11 historic in the entire history of Mississippi.

12 (b) The Legislature further recognizes that it is  
13 appropriate for the state to commemorate this tragic event and to  
14 memorialize the hundreds of citizens who lost their lives.

15 (c) The Legislature declares, therefore, that it is the  
16 purpose of this act to create the Hurricane Katrina Memorial  
17 Commission to make recommendations for an appropriate memorial to  
18 commemorate those who lost their lives in Mississippi in Hurricane  
19 Katrina.

20 (2) The Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission, hereafter  
21 referred to as the "commission," is hereby created and established  
22 in the Office of the Governor.

23 (3) The commission shall consist of sixteen (16) members  
24 appointed as follows to serve at the will and pleasure of the  
25 appointing authority:

26 (a) Four (4) members appointed by the Governor.

27 (b) Three (3) members appointed by the Lieutenant  
28 Governor.

29           (c) Three (3) members appointed by the Speaker of the  
30 House of Representatives.

31           (d) One (1) member appointed by the Hancock County  
32 Board of Supervisors.

33           (e) One (1) member appointed by the Harrison County  
34 Board of Supervisors.

35           (f) One (1) member appointed by the Jackson County  
36 Board of Supervisors.

37           (g) One (1) member appointed by the City of Biloxi  
38 Board of Aldermen/City Council.

39           (h) One (1) member appointed by the City of Gulfport  
40 Board of Aldermen/City Council.

41           (i) One (1) member appointed by the City of Pascagoula  
42 Board of Aldermen/City Council.

43           (j) One (1) member appointed by the City of Ocean  
44 Springs Board of Aldermen/City Council.

45           (k) One (1) member appointed by the City of Long Beach  
46 Board of Aldermen/City Council.

47           (l) One (1) member appointed by the City of Pass  
48 Christian Board of Aldermen/City Council.

49           (m) One (1) member appointed by the City of Bay St.  
50 Louis Board of Aldermen/City Council.

51           (n) One (1) member appointed by the City of Waveland  
52 Board of Aldermen/City Council.

53           (o) One (1) member appointed by the City of Gautier  
54 Board of Aldermen/City Council.

55           (4) The members of the commission shall elect a chairman,  
56 vice chairman and other officers as they deem necessary for the  
57 efficient operation of the business of the commission.

58           (5) The members of the commission shall serve without  
59 compensation, but they shall be reimbursed on a vouchered basis  
60 for actual expenses, including travel expenses, to the extent that  
61 funds are made available for such purpose.

62 (6) A vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be  
63 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

64 (7) The commission shall meet at such times and places as it  
65 may designate. All meetings shall be held at the call of the  
66 chairman or at the call of a quorum of members upon not less than  
67 seven (7) days written notice, unless notice is waived. A  
68 majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a  
69 quorum for the transaction of any and all business at any regular  
70 or special meeting. The first meeting of the commission shall be  
71 held within ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act  
72 on call of the Governor.

73 (8) The commission shall:

74 (a) Determine the general type and nature of an  
75 appropriate state memorial for those who lost their lives in  
76 Mississippi as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

77 (b) Identify an appropriate site or sites for such a  
78 memorial.

79 (9) The commission may seek cooperation, advice and  
80 assistance from both private and governmental agencies and  
81 organizations, including local governments, learned societies,  
82 academic institutions, and historical, patriotic, philanthropic,  
83 civic, and professional groups and associations in carrying out  
84 its purpose.

85 (10) The commission may solicit, accept, use and dispose of  
86 any private or public funds in the form of donations of money,  
87 grants, property or personal services from individuals,  
88 corporations and governments for purposes of the memorial.  
89 However, the commission shall first adopt rules and regulations  
90 under which it may accept such donations or grants of money,  
91 property or personal services, including the procedure for  
92 determining the value of the donation.

93 (11) The commission shall submit a report, not later than  
94 December 1, 2007, to the Governor and the Legislature. The report

95 shall include recommendations for the type and nature of the  
96 memorial and a site or sites for such memorial.

97 (12) All departments, commissions, boards, agencies,  
98 officers and institutions of the state and all subdivisions  
99 thereof shall cooperate with the commission in carrying out the  
100 powers and purposes of this act.

101 (13) The commission shall be dissolved on December 31, 2008.

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