

By: Senator(s) Jackson (32nd)

To: Public Property

SENATE BILL NO. 2653

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 29-1-65, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED "SEAT OF GOVERNMENT" LANDS
3 SHALL RETURN TO THAT STATUS WHEN REACQUIRED OR PURCHASED BY THE
4 STATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 29-1-65, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 29-1-65. (1) (a) All lands fallen or falling to the state
9 by escheat, or coming to it in any other manner; all lands
10 belonging to the State of Mississippi which were ceded to the
11 State of Mississippi by the United States government for a seat of
12 government which are located in Pearl River swamp and subject to
13 overflow, and all other seat of government lands which have been
14 surveyed into blocks and lots in the City of Jackson, Mississippi,
15 which were a part of the original lands ceded by the federal
16 government to the State of Mississippi for a seat of government
17 and which have never been disposed of by the State of Mississippi;
18 and all accretions near the mouth of the Pascagoula River,
19 heretofore surveyed by the state; and all other lands within the
20 borders of the state, not belonging to the United States nor owned
21 by another, are property of the state and are to be managed and
22 disposed of through the Secretary of State. The Secretary of
23 State, with the approval of the Governor, may sell any of such
24 lands, (except as otherwise provided in this chapter), at the same
25 price as the swamp and overflow lands, subject to be fixed in the
26 same manner and under like regulations.

27 (b) Provided that all lands belonging to the State of
28 Mississippi which were ceded to the State of Mississippi by the

29 United States government for a seat of government which are
30 located in Pearl River swamp and subject to overflow, and all
31 other seat of government lands which have been surveyed into
32 blocks and lots in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, which were a
33 part of the original lands ceded by the federal government to the
34 State of Mississippi for a seat of government and which have never
35 been disposed of by the State of Mississippi, shall not be sold by
36 the Secretary of State, with the approval of the Governor, unless
37 and until the * * * Legislature by legislative act shall have
38 approved the sale of such seat of government lands, or any part
39 thereof.

40 (2) If, subsequent to the sale of lands specified in this
41 section, the State of Mississippi shall purchase or otherwise
42 reacquire such lands, the lands so acquired shall return to its
43 previous status and be known as lands originally ceded to the
44 State of Mississippi by the United States government for a seat of
45 government.

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