

By: Senator(s) Polk, McDaniel

To: Accountability,  
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2632  
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE SECTION 5-8-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS AND TO PROHIBIT STATE AGENCIES FROM EXPENDING  
3 PUBLIC FUNDS TO PAY CONTRACT LOBBYISTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section  
6 5-8-25, Mississippi Code of 1972:

7 5-8-25. (1) For purposes of this section, the following  
8 terms shall have the meanings set out herein ascribed to them:

9 (a) "State Agency" means any board, commission,  
10 department and authority of the State of Mississippi, including  
11 the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning,  
12 and the individual institutions of higher learning.

13 (b) "Community or junior college" means all community  
14 or junior colleges and their boards of trustees established or  
15 empowered by Chapter 29, Title 37, Mississippi Code of 1972.

16 (c) "Public funds" means all funds appropriated by the  
17 Legislature and all other fees, local levies, or other revenues  
18 generated by the agency or a community or junior college that are



19 available for expenditure by an agency or a community or junior  
20 college. However, the term "public funds" shall not include  
21 gifts, donations or endowments received by an individual  
22 institution of higher learning or a community or junior college.

23 (d) "Lobbying" means any activity as defined as  
24 "lobbying" in Section 5-8-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, however,  
25 does not include providing technical information to legislators or  
26 legislative staff.

27 (e) "Contract lobbying" means any lobbying of the  
28 Mississippi Legislature performed by an independent contractor or  
29 lobbying that is performed by a contract worker of an agency or a  
30 community or junior college.

31 (2) (a) No state agency or a community or junior college  
32 shall expend any public funds to pay any person, firm or  
33 association or other collective of individuals to perform contract  
34 lobbying for such agency or a community or junior college.

35 (b) Any contract entered into between an agency or a  
36 community or junior college with a contract lobbyist shall be void  
37 and unenforceable.

38 (c) Any employee of a state agency or a community or  
39 junior college who authorizes payment of public funds to pay a  
40 person, firm, association or other collective of individuals who  
41 engage in contract lobbying shall be subject to dismissal.

42 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
43 and after July 1, 2017.

