

By: Representative Summers

To: State Affairs

HOUSE BILL NO. 715

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE DOWNTOWN JACKSON REVITALIZATION
2 COALITION FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL
3 STAKEHOLDERS TOGETHER TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LEADING TO
4 THE REVITALIZATION OF DOWNTOWN JACKSON; TO DESIGNATE MEMBERS OF
5 THE COALITION; TO REQUIRE THE COALITION TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE
6 GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE OF ITS ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS
7 BEFORE JANUARY 10, 2026; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is established the Downtown Jackson
10 Revitalization Coalition for the purpose of bringing together
11 stakeholders on the national, state and local levels for the
12 development of a comprehensive plan leading to the revitalization
13 of downtown Jackson, the capital city of the State of Mississippi.

14 (2) The coalition is composed of the following twenty-one
15 (21) members or their respective designees:

16 (a) The United States Department of Agriculture State
17 Director for Mississippi;

18 (b) The Interim Third Party Manager appointed by the
19 United States District Court for the Southern District of
20 Mississippi to oversee the city's water and sewer systems;



21 (c) United States Senator Roger Wicker;
22 (d) United States Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith;
23 (e) Congressman Bennie Thompson, United States
24 Representative of Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District;
25 (f) The Mississippi Governor;
26 (g) The Mississippi Lieutenant Governor;
27 (h) The Speaker of the Mississippi House of
28 Representatives;
29 (i) The Director of the Mississippi Development
30 Authority;
31 (j) The Chief of the Capitol Police;
32 (k) The Mayor of the City of Jackson;
33 (l) The Executive Director of the Hinds County Economic
34 Development Authority;
35 (m) The President of the Greater Jackson Alliance;
36 (n) The Executive Director of the Jackson Redevelopment
37 Authority;
38 (o) The President of Visit Jackson;
39 (p) The Director of the Capitol Complex Improvement
40 District;
41 (q) The President of Downtown Jackson Partners;
42 (r) The Executive Director of Great City Mississippi
43 Foundation;
44 (s) The President of Farish Street Community of Shalom;
45 (t) The President of Jackson State University; and



46 (u) The Chief of the Jackson Police Department.

47 A member of the coalition named in this subsection may
48 designate an individual from the staff of the member's office,
49 agency or organization to serve in place of that member on the
50 coalition.

51 (3) The Lieutenant Governor shall set the date and location
52 for an organizational meeting of the coalition, which must be held
53 before September 1, 2025. Notice of the organizational meeting
54 and subsequent meetings must be provided no less than three (3)
55 weeks before the date on which the meeting is scheduled. At the
56 organizational meeting, the coalition shall determine those
57 officers deemed necessary for the coalition's functioning and
58 shall elect from among the membership persons to serve as the
59 officers. Meetings of the coalition must be held on a monthly
60 basis. The coalition shall establish its goals and objectives for
61 each meeting, which may include informational sessions by
62 interested stakeholders and tours to various sites pertinent to
63 the work of the coalition within the City of Jackson. All actions
64 of the coalition must be decided by a majority vote of the members
65 of the coalition present and voting at the meeting at which an
66 action is being considered.

67 (4) Members of the coalition will serve without
68 compensation. However, those members of the coalition employed by
69 a state or local government agency may be reimbursed for mileage



and actual and necessary expenses as authorized under Section 25-3-41.

(5) The coalition may accept gifts, donations and grants of any kind from any source, public or private, to help defray any expenses incurred by the coalition.

(6) Whenever feasible, members of the coalition shall make available such professional and administrative staff as may be necessary to assist the coalition in the performance of its duties.

(7) Before January 10, 2026, the coalition shall submit a report of its determinations and recommended actions to the Governor and the Legislature. The report must include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(a) An inventory of existing resources that are aimed at making improvements in the City of Jackson and how those resources may be utilized and supported in furtherance of their goals;

(b) A description of the activities of the coalition;

(c) Recommendations for a cohesive plan of action to bring community stakeholders together to implement measures aimed at revitalizing downtown Jackson and spurring economic development, reducing crime and making improvements to the city's infrastructure; and



93 (d) Any other recommendations determined by the
94 coalition to be necessary and desirable to further the goal of
95 revitalizing the City of Jackson.

96 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
97 and after July 1, 2025.

