

By: Representatives Pigott, Aguirre, Grady, Lott, Mangold, Morgan, Smith, Tubb To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 1212

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE UNINTENDED
2 IMPACT OF WIND TURBINE USAGE IN AGRICULTURE; TO DESIGNATE THE
3 MEMBERS OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE; TO PROVIDE A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM
4 ON NEW WIND TURBINE CONSTRUCTION PERMITS UNTIL AFTER JULY 1, 2026;
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a study committee for the
8 purpose of studying the impact of wind turbine usage in
9 agriculture. The instillation and usage of wind turbines are
10 potentially having unintended impacts on surrounding properties,
11 the aquifer and agricultural aviation pilots. It shall be the
12 duty of this study committee to comprehensively research these
13 potential issues and report back to the Legislature with the
14 committee's recommendations and the appropriate legislation to
15 enact into law those recommendations.

16 (2) The study committee shall be comprised of the following
17 nine (9) members:

18 (a) The Public Service Commissioner, or his or her
19 designee;



(b) A representative of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality;

(c) A representative from the Mississippi State University Agricultural Department;

(d) The President of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation, or his or her designee;

(e) The President of the Mississippi Agricultural Aviation Association, or his or her designee;

(f) A representative from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce;

(g) The Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, or his or her designee;

(h) The Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, or his or her designee; and

(i) The President of Delta Council, or his or her designee.

(3) This study committee shall meet to discuss and provide recommendations and proposed legislation for the following topics:

(a) The setbacks that are necessary to prevent wind turbines from causing property right infringement issues due to the potential displacement of fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides and other airborne farming substances that could be displaced to neighboring properties due to the gusts created by wind turbines;

(b) The impact wind turbine installation is having on the aquifer and other nearby water sources;



45 (c) Any potential safety concerns or issues that wind
46 turbines cause agricultural aviation pilots to experience; and

47 (d) Any other information deemed relevant and necessary
48 to accomplish the tasks assigned in paragraphs (a) through (c) of
49 this subsection.

50 (4) Appointments to the study committee shall be made within
51 thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act. The Senate
52 Agriculture Committee Chairman, or his or her designee, shall
53 serve as the chairman of the study committee. At the first
54 meeting, the committee shall elect from among its members a vice
55 chairman and any other officers determined to be necessary, and
56 shall adopt rules for transacting business and keeping records.
57 The study committee shall develop and report its findings and
58 proposed legislation to the Legislature on or before December 1,
59 2025.

60 (5) A majority of the members of the study committee shall
61 constitute a quorum. In the adoption of rules, resolutions and
62 reports, and in the election of a vice chairman and any other
63 officers determined to be necessary, an affirmative vote of a
64 majority of the members present shall be required.

65 (6) Members of the study committee shall be reimbursed for
66 necessary travel expenses in the same manner as public employees
67 are reimbursed for official duties from any available funds, and
68 members of the Legislature shall be reimbursed in the same manner
69 as for attending out-of-session committee meetings.



70 (7) The Legislature shall provide the staff and other
71 support necessary for the study committee to perform its duties.

72 (8) To effectuate the purposes of this act, any department,
73 division, board, bureau, committee, institution or agency of the
74 state, or any political subdivision thereof, shall, at the request
75 of the chairman of the study committee, provide the facilities,
76 assistance, information and data needed to enable the study
77 committee to carry out its duties.

78 (9) The study committee shall be dissolved on or before
79 January 1, 2026.

80 (10) To prevent causing further damage before the committee
81 can complete the study on wind turbines and have the opportunity
82 to enact legislation to address potential areas of concern, there
83 shall be a moratorium on new wind turbine building contracts,
84 leases and permits beginning from the passage of this act until
85 July 1, 2026.

86 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
87 and after its passage.

