

Smith, Turner & Reeves Legislative Report

Legislative Report 06-3

DATE: February 17, 2006

Note: This report is for filings through February 15, 2006. This report applies to the review of bills referred to the Public Utility Committees of the House and Senate, and to the review of other bills as numerically filed through HB1627 and SB3083.

Actions of the House of Representatives

Bills referred to the Public Utilities Committee

House Bill 61 – HB61 would prohibit certain fax solicitations under the Mississippi Telephone Solicitation Act.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 185 – HB185 would allow public utilities to develop and enter into mutual aid agreements for reciprocal emergency assistance in the case of emergencies or natural disasters.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 284 – HB284 would revise composition of the 911 Board of Commissioners.

Status – Passed in House, transmitted to Senate

House Bill 405 – HB405 would prohibit reconnect fees charged by electric utilities from exceeding one percent of delinquent amount.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 567 – HB567 would extend automatic repealer of Mississippi Public Service Commission.

Status – Passed in House, transmitted to Senate

House Bill 680 – HB680 would establish regulations related to deceptive business practices including limitations on advertising in telephone directories.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 696 – HB696 would provide that nonprofit natural gas districts would not be responsible for the cost of removal or relocation of their facilities from highway right of way.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 736 – HB736 would ease restrictions on erection of antennas for amateur radio operators.

Status – Passed in House, transmitted to Senate

House Bill 1103 – HB1103 would require cellular telephone operators to file an annual report with the MPSC identifying locations of towers.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 1252 – HB1252 would limit the regulation of telephone services by the Mississippi Public Service Commission for certain telephone providers.

Status – Passed in House, transmitted to Senate

House Bill 1254 – HB1254 would require cellular phone service providers make cellular service available statewide.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 1266 – HB1266 require that E-911 services include a display of the county and city from where a call is placed.

Status – Died in Committee

House Bill 1356 – HB1356 would require that cellular telephone service providers pay a city utility tax.

Status – Died in Committee

Other Bills

House Bill 122 – HB122 would create the “Fair Pay Act of 2005” which would define and prohibit discrimination in hiring and pay practices based on sex, race or national origin.

Status - Died in Committee

House Bill 263 – HB263 would authorize counties to establish and support a 911 telephone system which would warn users of emergency situations by placing a computerized telephone call.

Status - Died in Committee

House Bill 509 – HB509 would phase out income taxes on corporations.

Status - Active, referred to Ways and Means Committee

House Bill 612 – HB612 would exempt finance charges from sales tax.

Status - Active, referred to Ways and Means Committee

House Bill 625 – HB625 would exempt inventories held for resale from Ad valorem taxes.

Status - Active, referred to Ways and Means Committee

House Bill 1507 – HB1507 would extend the income and franchise tax credit granted to telecommunications enterprises for the cost of deployment of broadband technologies until the year 2020.

Status - Active, referred to Ways and Means Committee

House Bill 1545 – HB1545 would exclude overtime compensation from gross income for income tax purposes.

Status - Active, referred to Ways and Means Committee

Actions of the Senate

Bills referred to the Public Utilities Committee

Senate Bill 2111 – SB2111 would prohibit certain unsolicited fax solicitations.

Status - Died in Committee

Senate Bill 2567 – SB2567 would extend automatic repealer of Mississippi Public Service Commission.

Status – Passed in Senate, transmitted to House

Senate Bill 2606 – SB2606 would limit the regulation of telephone services by the Mississippi Public Service Commission for certain telephone providers.

Status – Passed in Senate, transmitted to House

Senate Bill 2624 – SB2624 would require that the Mississippi Public Service Commission regulate CATV systems.

Status – Died in Committee

Senate Bill 2695 – SB2695 would extend the automatic repealer on the Mississippi Telephone Solicitation Act.

Status – Passed in Senate, transmitted to House