



## ***Advisory Commission on the Mississippi State Flag and the Mississippi Coat-of-Arms***

**Creation**        The Mississippi Supreme Court ruled on May 4, 2000, that there was no existing law establishing or promulgating a flag or coat-of-arms for the State of Mississippi and that the decision to adopt or not adopt a flag for Mississippi is wholly within the power of the Legislature and the executive branch of government. Pursuant to this ruling, Governor Musgrove issued Executive Order No. 833 which created and established the Advisory Commission on the Mississippi State Flag and the Mississippi Coat-of-Arms.

**Purpose**         The Advisory Commission is a time-limited commission with the sole purpose of proposing and reporting a design for the State Flag and the State Coat-of-Arms to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House on or before May 4, 2001.

**Composition**   The seventeen-member Advisory Commission consists of three members of the Mississippi House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House; three members of the Mississippi Senate appointed by the Lt. Governor; eleven members appointed by the Governor: two representatives from the field of education, a representative of the Mississippi Economic Council, a representative of the Mississippi Arts Commission, a representative of the Archives and History Board, three representatives from business and industry and three members-at-large.

In order to work in an expeditious manner and in the best interest of the citizens of Mississippi, the Commission has divided itself into the following committees to address different areas critical to its mission.

Each committee is comprised of two legislators and a diverse racial representation of Commission members.

Committee on History and Heritage: to confer with appropriate organizations and individuals with special interest in and knowledge of the state's history and the relationship and interpretation of that history through its flag and coat-of-arms.

Committee on Economic Impact: to confer with appropriate organizations and individuals with concern about and understanding of the long term economic impact on the state of controversies involving the state flag.

Committee on Design: to confer with appropriate organizations and individuals who are knowledgeable in the design of flags and coat of arms and who have an understanding of the proper role and significance of such symbols.

## **Public**

**Comments** The Commission recognizes that this is a matter about which there is much interest and strives to carry out its responsibilities in a manner that will reflect credit on Mississippi. The Commission solicits your support in resolving this matter in a way that honors our past and at the same time embraces the great promise of the future. Please send your comments to:

Advisory Commission on the State Flag and Coat-of-Arms  
P.O. Box 139  
Jackson, MS 39205-0139

## **Next**

**Meeting** The Advisory Commission on the Mississippi State Flag and the Mississippi Coat-of-Arms will meet Monday, September 18, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 216 of the State Capitol.

