

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 857

Advisory Commission on Remote Sensing Technologies

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi recognizes the critical importance of accurate, accessible, up-to-date information about its people, transportation, property ownership, physical features, land, water and other resources; and

WHEREAS, newer technologies afford the State of Mississippi the opportunity to provide its citizens and governments with enhanced services in a more timely and cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS, digital information about the state and its resources is a key component to Mississippi's economic development infrastructure and offers the State of Mississippi an expanded decision support system that can provide a competitive advantage with other states; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Mississippi maps produced by the United States Geological Survey are now more than twenty years old, of low accuracy and resolution, contain outdated and inaccurate data, not digitized and cannot be accessed through the Internet and do not utilize remote sensing technologies; and

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi needs high accuracy, high resolution mapping data which is timely and can be more easily updated, internet accessible, can be computer-manipulated and utilizes remote sensing technologies in order to maintain its competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, a number of municipalities, counties, planning and development districts, universities, colleges, state and federal agencies are involved in remote sensing and geographic information system technologies; and

WHEREAS, a need to reduce duplication and coordinate efforts to maximize public spending and maintain the public's trust exists; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby create and establish the Governor's Advisory Commission on Remote Sensing Technologies.

I. PURPOSE

The Governor's Advisory Commission on Remote Sensing Technologies is hereby charged with developing recommendations for the formation of a uniform clearinghouse of public remote sensing data, including a digital land base computer model of the State of Mississippi, for the citizens of Mississippi and the world to use.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Advisory Commission shall be appointed as follows:

1. Executive Director, Department of Environmental Quality, who shall serve as Chair
2. Executive Director, Department of Information Technology Services, who shall serve as Vice-Chair
3. Executive Director, Department of Transportation
4. Executive Director, Mississippi Development Authority
5. Executive Director, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
6. Chair, Mississippi Institute for Forestry Inventory
7. Executive Director, Mississippi Automated Resource Information System
8. Executive Director, Mississippi Space Commerce Initiative
9. Executive Director, Remote Sensing Technologies Center
10. A representative of the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts
11. Two (2) Representatives, to be designated by the Speaker of the House
12. Two (2) Senators, to be designated by the Lieutenant Governor
13. Chairman, Mississippi Association of Supervisors, or his designee
14. Chairman, Mississippi Municipal League, or his designee
15. A representative of the Governor's Office
16. Any other members designated by the Governor.

A quorum of the Commission shall consist of a majority of the members.

III. FUNCTIONS

The Chair of the Advisory Commission may designate the establishment of certain technical committees to counsel the commission remote sensing technologies and specific development areas, including transportation, natural resources, and utilities.

The initial recommendations shall be made on or before November 15, 2002. The Advisory Commission's recommendations shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Documenting and articulating of needs and benefits of remote sensing technologies to the State of Mississippi and her people;
2. Identifying key components of a remote sensing coordination program;
3. Identifying standardized data mapping layers;
4. Recommending uniform delivery systems and information technology infrastructure;
5. Reviewing organizational issues and recommending any changes needed to assure the most cost-effective use of limited federal, state, and local funds and reduce duplicitous efforts;
6. Promoting efficient and effective collaboration and coordination of data management and quality assurance issues; operation, maintenance and update issues;
7. Estimating costs for development, operation, and maintenance of a state-level coordinated the program for use by the public.

IV. COMPENSATION

Members of the Advisory Commission shall receive no compensation for service on the commission but may receive reasonable reimbursement for actual expenses to the extent allowed by specific legislation and to the extent funds are available for that purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Jackson, May 9, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE