



The Governor's Home

A proposal for energy efficient housing for
Mississippi's senior population

DRAFT

Authority Granted to Mississippi Prison Industries

Under the Mississippi Prison Industries Act of 1990, the Mississippi Prison Industries Corporation's mission is:

- 1) To reduce the cost of state government by operating prison industries primarily with inmate labor, which industries do not seek to unreasonably compete with private enterprise;
- 2) To serve the rehabilitative goals of the state by duplicating as nearly as possible, the operating activities of a free-enterprise type of profit-making enterprise; and
- 3) To serve the security goals of the state by reducing the idleness of inmates and by providing an incentive for good behavior while in prison.

Under the authority granted to Prison Industries, the board may implement this program upon the conclusion of a feasibility study as outlined in Miss. Code Ann. §47-5-545 (1972):

Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, after the commissioning and implementation of a marketing feasibility study for any proposed new prison industry, the corporation may establish such prison industry. Before any new industry is established, the corporation shall hold a hearing to determine the impact such industry may have on the private sector market. The corporation shall provide adequate and advance notice regarding the nature, time, date and place of such hearing. After the hearing which is required under this section, the corporation may commence negotiations with the State Department of Corrections, with the Secretary of State, or his designee, serving as a mediator, regarding the leasing of land and other chattels for the purpose of establishing any new industry.

Recommendation

Under executive authority, the Governor may direct the Mississippi Prison Industries Corporation to conduct a feasibility study in accordance with state law. This feasibility study will review the financial appropriateness of the proposal and conclude the impact of the activity on the private sector.

Governor Musgrove's Proposal for Assisting Senior Housing Needs

Under this proposal, qualified seniors can apply for energy efficient, affordable housing options delivered to their property. The principal & interest costs should remain less than \$200 per month. This calculation assumes a total cost of \$30,000 at 7% interest rate on a 30-year fixed mortgage. Homes built would be less than 1,000 square feet thereby providing less space to maintain.

What are the advantages?

The "Governor's Home" program provides reasonably sized affordable homes that may be placed near relatives or caretakers residences. These homes may also be placed individually or in groupings to provide a community environment.

Who is qualified?

A Qualified Homebuyer must:

- Be 65 years of age or older;
- Have a household income less than \$25,000;
- Use the home as his primary residence;
- Have a net worth less than \$100,000; and,
- Be placed anywhere in Mississippi.

What are the Homebuyer's responsibilities?

A Qualified Homebuyer is responsible for:

- Purchasing a lot;
- Acquiring a building permit;
- Paying set-up costs including foundation, utility hook-ups & fees;
- Landscaping; and,
- Purchasing floor coverings and appliances.

Mississippi Prison Industries Corporation will provide technical assistance for set-up of home.