

Mississippi's Flag of 1894— A Symbol of Economic Success

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The Mississippi flag that has flown since 1894 has presided over more than 120 years of economic progress and was reconfirmed as the people's choice following a landslide victory at the polls in 2001. Still, the flag has its opponents. One reason the opposition offers for replacing the flag is that it injures the state's economy. As we shall see, the truth is far different.

Consider the Facts

In James and Walter Kennedy's book, *Punished with Poverty*, we learn that the South was once "the center of American wealth, a more open and diverse society than its Northern nemesis, and a very well-educated society." From 1607 to 1733, the South's pattern of wealth creation surpassed all of the other English colonies.¹

In 1860, the illiteracy rate in the South was only 8.27%, so nearly 92% of the Southern people could read and write. "There was one college student for every 247 people in the South." In the North, there was 1 for every 703.¹

The Southern Milch Cow

"From the colonial days through the antebellum era, the South was prosperous, healthy, and educated. The one great fear ... was that, as a minority within the Union, the South would become the 'milch cow' of the North. Patrick Henry expressed that fear during debate over the Constitution." Patrick Henry was right.

Although American patriots such as John Calhoun continued the legacy of Patrick Henry and did their best to enforce the Constitutional limitations on federal power and maintain regional balance in terms of taxation, special interests in the North eventually gained the upper hand.



Claire, Katie & Brook of Victory Flags & More, marketing partners of www.FlagsAcrossMississippi.com

As early as 1828, Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri denounced the treatment that the South was receiving at the hands of the Northern majority in Congress [quote edited to save space]:

*I feel for the sad changes, which have taken place. Before the Revolution, the South was the seat of wealth, as well as hospitality. Money, and all it commanded, abounded. All this is reversed. Wealth has fled from the South, and settled in regions north of the Potomac; and this in the face of the fact that the South, in four staples alone, has exported produce to the value of eight hundred million dollars and the North has exported comparatively nothing. The exports of the South have been the primary basis of Federal revenue. Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia defray three-fourths of the annual Federal budget, and nothing of consequence flows back to them. Expenditures flow in the opposite direction—northwardly, in one uniform, uninterrupted stream. This is the reason why wealth disappears from the South and rises up in the North ... taking from the South, and returning nothing to it.*¹

The situation worsened, and other insults were added, leading the South to declare independence, just as the American colonies did in 1776. But Northern interests were loathe to see their "milch cow" escape the pasture, so they chased after it, in hot pursuit.

The Invaders Brought Poverty

The war waged against the South by invaders including Ulysses Grant and William Sherman left Southerners in economic ruin. Thousands of Mississippi men died, leaving their wives and children to fend for themselves. After the war, the invader's army occupied the state, while an unofficial army of carpetbaggers bought land for next to nothing from starving families.

In the years that followed, so-called "Reconstruction" and unconstitutional expansions of federal power made it difficult for Southerners to recover. Nevertheless, the South gained ground. Mississippi was no exception, and the flag our ancestors raised in 1894 (with its St. Andrew's Cross that people of all races should cherish) has presided over a magnificent comeback.

Modern Evidence of a Comeback

Over the 7 years following the landslide vote to retain the flag in 2001, per capita income increased by roughly 12%. From 2001, income rose for 7 years in a row. The streak ended in 2008 when Socialist federal policies plunged America into a severe recession.

In 2003 Nissan opened a plant in Canton, creating 6,400 jobs. In 2005 a state-of-the-art steel millworks was built on 1400 acres in Columbus. The million-square-foot plant is now owned by Steel Dynamics, one of America's largest steel producers.

Our State Flag and Liberty

Steve Miller, Ray Shores & Vince Thornton

Please support Initiative 62 and Flags Across Mississippi™. If a petition for Initiative 62 (I-62) is not enclosed, please download one at FlagVote.com. These two campaigns could lead to a big victory for our flag and liberty in general. Consider ...

One of the myths of American history is that the North invaded the South to end slavery. In reality, the war was a clash between two factions with very different views about the proper role of government, explained in part by the Political Spectrum chart shown below.

By 1860 many Northern leaders were out of step with the principles of government held by America's founding fathers. The founders' views about government fit in the Limited Government portion of the Spectrum, but the views of these Northern leaders fit in the Big Government portion.

On the right side of the Spectrum, Southern leaders stuck to the principles of America's founders and the strict meaning and original intent of the U.S. Constitution (a.k.a. States' Rights).

As factional differences grew, so did the likelihood of crisis. It came in 1860, but the War Between the States was not the first clash between factions on the Left and those on the Right.

In 1776, the American colonies seceded from Great Britain in such a clash, and war erupted then, too. In

fact, for ages people who favor unlimited government have been at extreme odds with those who favor limited government and liberty.

The Leftist faction believes that government should have unlimited power to mold and control people and confiscate their wealth. This faction created Communism, Socialism, Fascism and Nazism. (Nazis were members of the National Socialist German Workers' Party, and U.S.S.R. stood for Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.)

The faction on the Right believes that government should have only limited power and that its main purpose is to protect God-given rights. This faction created the United States and the Confederate States, the constitutions of each being very similar and supportive of limited government and liberty.

The Saltire or "X" on the Mississippi flag is based on a flag that the people of Scotland used in their resistance to tyranny. Named in honor of a disciple of Jesus Christ, the St. Andrew's Cross is a symbol of Christianity, not slavery. It also appeared on the battle flag of the Confederate States.

Our Flag Should Be Loved By All
The presence of the St. Andrews Cross on the Mississippi flag should lead people of all races to cherish our state flag, especially at this time in America when liberty is under such heavy attack from the Left. Our Mississippi

flag has the most morally significant meaning of any state flag in America, and Leftist leaders hate it and fear it for that very reason.

- Why Initiative 62?**
Gathering signatures for I-62 is the first of two steps toward amending the Mississippi Constitution to:
1. Recognize our current flag as the state's official flag.
 2. Require that the flag be flown at the principal installations of all state supported institutions, state agencies, and political subdivisions.

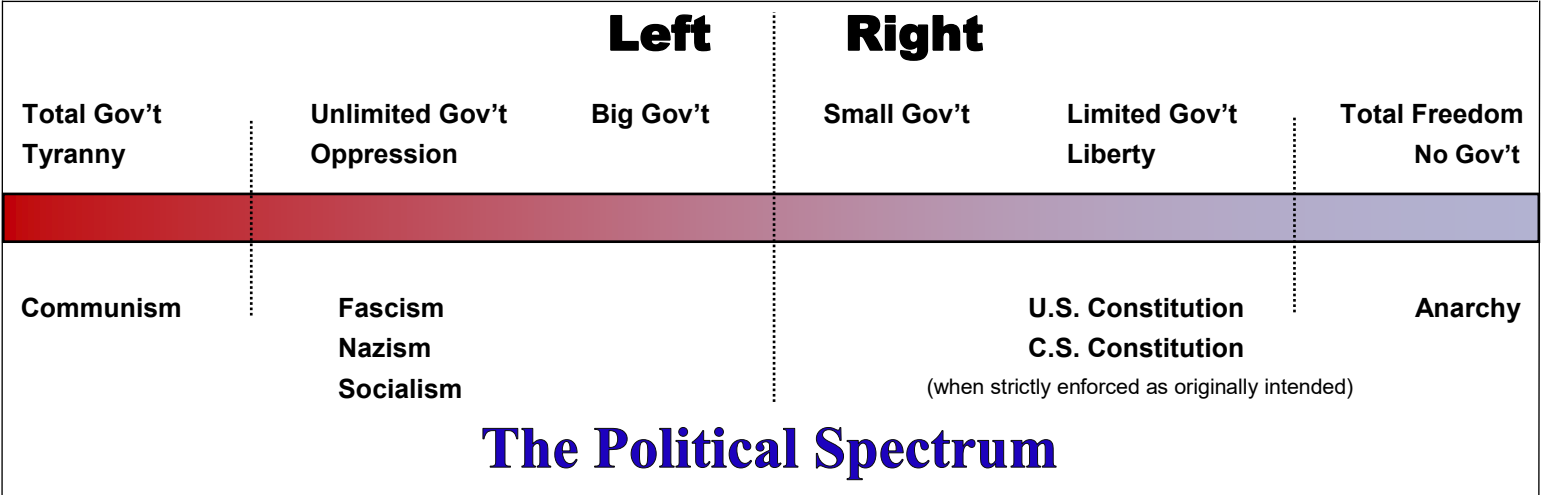
Why Vote Again?
People ask, "Why do we need to vote again? We voted in 2001 and won by a landslide." Answer: The flag is under attack again, but if we can amend the state Constitution to protect the flag, the legislature would not be able to change it by a simple majority vote; a counter-amendment would be required.

If enough people sign the I-62 petition (step 1), the public would be allowed to vote (step 2) to amend the Mississippi Constitution to add a layer of protection for our state flag as explained above.

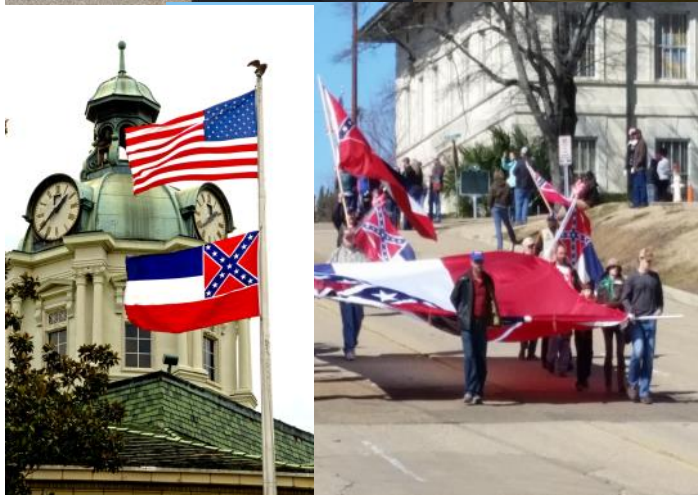
Both Initiative 62 and Flags Across Mississippi™ deserve your support. Please take action today!

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Support *Our* Mississippi Flag



Initiative 62

High Priority—

- Obtain signatures from 10 or more registered voters in your county.
- Mail completed petitions back to us promptly.

Use the enclosed petition, if provided, or
Download petitions at www.FlagVote.com

Other Ways to Help—

- Order publications and petitions in bulk.
- Set up displays at local businesses, summer festivals and public educational events.
 - Collect petition signatures.
 - Distribute this publication and others.
 - Sell Mississippi flags and flagpoles. (Wholesale pricing is available.)

Call for 844-772-4621 for details and support.

Flags Across Mississippi™

High Priority—

- Purchase and fly a Mississippi 3'x5' or larger flag and a wall-mount or upright pole, if needed.
- FREE American 3'x5' flag with each order of \$25.00 or more, while supplies last. Enter code "Initiative 62" at checkout. Terms & conditions apply.

See the advertisement on page 4.

Other Ways to Help—

- Give the Mississippi flag to your family and friends, church, school, and businesses.
- Nominate locations to receive free Miss. flags through the Gift Flag Program. Terms & conditions apply.
- Order flags & publications for public events, gun shows, and summer festivals.
- Book a speaker for your club or public event.

www.FlagsAcrossMississippi.com or 844-772-4621

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In 2004 Airbus Helicopters opened a plant in Columbus to produce commercial and military helicopters. In 2007 the plant was expanded to enclose 325,000 sq. ft. The company boasts that “America’s most popular helicopter is now proudly made in the USA by American workers.”

In 2010 Olin Corporation moved its Winchester ammunition plant from Illinois to Oxford. The company states that the move improved efficiency and profits. That same year, Toyota announced that it would open its Blue Springs manufacturing plant in 2011.

In 2011, GE Aviation announced plans to build a \$56 million factory in Ellisville. The announcement followed the 2009 opening of GE Aviation's manufacturing facility in Batesville. The sites represent a \$150 million investment in Mississippi.

Also in 2011, Delphi Automotive began \$15 million in improvements to its Brookhaven plant built in 1977.

In 2013 Raytheon expanded its Forest plant by more than 20,000 sq. ft. and added 150 jobs. Aurora Flight Sciences opened a \$17 million, 30,000 square foot facility in Columbus.

In 2015 Yokohama Tire opened a \$300 million plant in West Point.

In 2016 Continental Tire began construction of a \$1.4 billion plant in Clinton. Feuer Powertrain opened its North American headquarters in Tunica County with a \$140 million facility, the company’s very first facility outside of Germany.

The Story Behind the Story

Obviously, Mississippi’s flag is not an obstacle to economic success, and anti-flag leaders do not really believe that it

is. The leaders of the anti-flag movement are part of the same Left-wing crowd that is waging war on liberty (freedom linked to morality) in hundreds of ways throughout America.

When interviewed in 2001 following the flag’s landslide victory at the polls, an anti-flag spokesman stated in a television interview that the assault on the flag would not end with the vote and that people involved in the anti-flag movement would never be satisfied until they “have everything”.

If you feel that the Left has captured too much already, let us join forces to deny them of even one more victory—no victory over our flag ... and no more victories at all ... period.

¹ Punished by Poverty (Columbia: Shotwell Publ., 2016), Chaps. 1-4.

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Showroom: Cotton Exchange Plaza, U.S. 49, Flora, Miss.

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- Upright residential flagpole prices from \$99.95. Commercial sizes, too.
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- Quantity discounts available on many flags. Buy in bulk and sell at events.
- All prices and availability are subject to change anytime at our discretion.