

# Don't 'privatize' state personnel

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Big business is good government?

The decision to shelve the state Personnel Board by the Mississippi Senate is a giant step toward privatizing the delivery of public goods likely benefiting big campaign contributors and possibly the prospective employer of legislators ("Bill to curb Personnel Board's oversight remains alive," April 4).

The trick is to degrade public good delivery through personnel reductions and assignments a la Michael Brown at FEMA in the Bush administration (simplified without Personnel Board scrutiny) making privatization more appealing.

This deterioration presents a perfect capture opportunity for a small group of "investors" (oligarchs) to seize the government purse, private entities acquiring exclusive rights to provide public goods through enabling legislation.

With things like those pesky PEER committees and the like rendered superfluous, the acquiring "special interests" won't be bothered by purchasing laws and minority participation requirements; you know that indivisible-with liberty and justice for all jazz.

Mississippi will have all the liberty of one big company town with the majority of the citizens kowtowing to a few corporate interests. Go Mississippi, keep Ka-chinging along?

Victor Cavett



