

By: Representative Johnson

To: Judiciary A

## HOUSE BILL NO. 136

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-1-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REVISE THE PROHIBITION AGAINST NEPOTISM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

4 SECTION 1. Section 25-1-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
5 amended as follows:

6 25-1-53. It shall be unlawful for any person elected,  
7 appointed or selected in any manner whatsoever to any state,  
8 county, district or municipal office, or for any board of trustees  
9 of any state institution, to appoint or employ, \* \* \* any person  
10 related by blood or marriage within the third degree, computed by  
11 the rule of the civil law, who is to be paid out of public funds  
12 in an amount exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per annum,  
13 to the person or any member of the board of trustees having the  
14 authority to make such appointment or contract such employment as  
15 employer. This section shall not apply to any employee who shall  
16 have been in said department or institution prior to the time his  
17 or her kinsman, within the third degree, became the head of said  
18 department or institution or member of said board of trustees; and  
19 this section shall not apply to any person seeking appointment as  
20 an election worker who has served as an election worker in the  
21 election immediately preceding the commencement of a term of  
22 office as an election commissioner by his kinsman within the third  
23 degree. The provision herein contained shall not apply in the  
24 instance of the employment of physicians, nurses or medical  
25 technicians by governing boards of charity hospitals or other  
26 public hospitals.

27           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
28 and after July 1, 1999, and shall only apply to appointments or  
29 hirings made on or after July 1, 1999.