

By: Representative Moak

To: Judiciary B

## HOUSE BILL NO. 141

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-41-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REVISE PENALTIES FOR KILLING LIVESTOCK; TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
3 INTENTIONAL KILLING OF LIVESTOCK FOR RITUAL PURPOSES SHALL BE A  
4 FELONY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 97-41-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 97-41-15. (1) (a) Any person who shall intentionally or  
9 maliciously, either out of a spirit of revenge or wanton cruelty  
10 or who shall mischievously kill, maim or wound, or injure any  
11 livestock, or cause any person to do the same, shall be guilty of  
12 a felony and upon conviction, shall be committed to the custody of  
13 the State Department of Corrections for not less than one (1) year  
14 nor more than ten (10) years, and fined an amount not less than  
15 One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), nor more than Ten  
16 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

17 (b) Any person who shall intentionally or maliciously  
18 kill any livestock of another and dismember or mutilate such  
19 carcass, or cause any person to do the same, shall be guilty of a  
20 felony and upon conviction, shall be committed to the custody of  
21 the State Department of Corrections for not less than one (1) year  
22 nor more than ten (10) years, and fined an amount not less than  
23 Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00), nor more than  
24 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) and any property used in the  
25 commission of the crime shall be confiscated including, but not  
26 limited to firearms, motor vehicles or any other weapon or other  
27 property used in the commission of such crime.

28           (2) In addition to any such fine or imprisonment which may  
29 be imposed, the court shall order that restitution be made to the  
30 owner of any animal listed in subsection (1) of this section. The  
31 measure for restitution in money shall be the current replacement  
32 value of such loss and/or the actual veterinarianian fees, special  
33 supplies, loss of income and other costs incurred as a result of  
34 actions in violation of subsection (1) of this section.

35           (3) For purposes of this section, the term "livestock" shall  
36 mean horses, cattle, swine, sheep and other domestic animals  
37 produced for profit.

38           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
39 and after July 1, 1999.