

By: Representative Smith (35th)

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 518

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 75-67-335, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE RIGHTFUL OWNER OF STOLEN GOODS WHICH ARE
3 PLEDGED SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR THE PLEDGED AMOUNT; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 75-67-335, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 75-67-335. If any pledged goods from a pawn transaction are
9 found to be stolen goods and are returned to the rightful owner by
10 law enforcement authorities, * * * the rightful owner of such
11 pledged goods shall not be liable to the licensee for the pledged
12 amount. The rightful owner shall cooperate in the criminal
13 prosecution related to such pawn transaction * * *. It shall also
14 be the responsibility of the licensee to assist or cooperate in
15 the criminal prosecution related to such pawn transaction. If the
16 identity of a person who pawned stolen goods can be determined,
17 the district attorney may prosecute such person for any applicable
18 criminal violations.

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