

By: Representative McInnis

To: Transportation

## HOUSE BILL NO. 591

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-7-31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REQUIRE THE FRONT AUXILIARY DRIVING LIGHTS ON CERTAIN MOTOR  
3 VEHICLES TO BE CONNECTED TO THE DIMMER SWITCH; TO REQUIRE  
4 AUXILIARY DRIVING LIGHTS TO PROJECT THEIR BEAMS OF LIGHT DOWNWARD;  
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 63-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 63-7-31. Except as hereinafter provided in this chapter, the  
10 headlights and any auxiliary driving lights located on the front  
11 of any motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle  
12 shall be so arranged that the driver may control the selection  
13 between distributions of light projected to different elevations,  
14 subject to the following requirements and limitations:

15 (a) There shall be an uppermost distribution of light,  
16 or composite beam, so aimed and of such intensity as to reveal  
17 persons and vehicles at a distance of at least three hundred fifty  
18 (350) feet ahead for all conditions of loading.

19 (b) There shall be lowermost distribution of light, or  
20 composite beam so aimed and of sufficient intensity to reveal  
21 persons and vehicles at a distance of at least one hundred (100)  
22 feet ahead; and on a straight level road under any condition of  
23 loading none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall be  
24 directed to strike the eyes of an approaching driver. If a  
25 vehicle is equipped with auxiliary driving lights, then such  
26 lights must be aimed so as to project the beams of the lights  
27 downward at an angle of at least five (5) degrees below

28 horizontal.

29           (c) The dimming mechanism must be connected in such a  
30 manner that at any time the headlights are placed on the lowermost  
31 distribution of light, as provided in paragraph (b) of this  
32 section, all front auxiliary driving lights automatically are at a  
33 lower intensity or are turned off completely.

34           Every new motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or  
35 motor-driven cycle, registered in this state after January 1,  
36 1954, which has multiple-beam road-lighting equipment shall be  
37 equipped with a beam indicator, which shall be lighted whenever  
38 the uppermost distribution of light from the headlights is in use  
39 and shall not otherwise be lighted. The indicator shall be so  
40 designed and located that when lighted it will be readily visible  
41 without glare to the driver of the vehicle so equipped.

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