By: Senator(s) Simmons, Walls, Gollott, Dickerson, Johnson (38th)

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2737 (As Passed the Senate)

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 75-76-311, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
TO REDUCE THE PENALTY FOR A CONVICTION OF A FIRST OFFENSE OF
CHEATING AT A GAMBLING GAME WHEN THE AMOUNT UNLAWFULLY GAINED AS A
RESULT OF THE OFFENSE IS LESS THAN \$250.00; AND FOR RELATED
PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
MISSISSIPPI:

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- 8 SECTION 1. Section 75-76-311, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 9 amended as follows:
- 10 75-76-311. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this
- 11 section, and in addition to any other penalty provided in this
- 12 chapter, any person who violates any provision of Sections
- 13 75-76-301 through 75-76-313, shall be punished:
- 14 (a) For the first offense, by imprisonment in the State
- 15 Penitentiary for not more than two (2) years, or by a fine of not
- 16 more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), or by both such fine
- 17 and imprisonment.
- 18 (b) For a second or subsequent violation of any of
- 19 these provisions, by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for
- 20 not more than ten (10) years, and may be further punished by a
- 21 fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).
- 22 (2) Any person who violates the provisions of Section
- 23 <u>75-76-307</u>, where the amount unlawfully gained as a result of the
- offense is under Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), shall be
- 25 punished for the first offense by imprisonment in the county jail
- 26 for not more than six (6) months, or by a fine of not more than
- 27 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by both such fine and
- 28 <u>imprisonment</u>.

(3) 29 In addition to any other penalty provided in this chapter, any person who attempts, or two (2) or more persons who 30 conspire, to violate any provision of Sections 75-76-301 through 31 32 75-76-313 each shall be punished by imposing the penalty provided in * * * this section for the completed crime, whether or not he 33 personally played any gambling game or used any prohibited device. 34 35 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 1999. 36