

By: Senator(s) Smith

To: Juvenile Justice

SENATE BILL NO. 2783

1 AN ACT ENTITLED THE "MISSISSIPPI CRIME AND JUVENILE JUSTICE
2 INFORMATION ACT OF 1999"; TO AUTHORIZE A LOCAL CRIME AND JUVENILE
3 JUSTICE COMMISSION IN EACH COUNTY IN THE STATE AND PRESCRIBE THE
4 MEMBERSHIP THEREOF; TO DIRECT EACH COMMISSION TO HOLD MONTHLY
5 PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORTING STATISTICAL
6 INFORMATION ON JUVENILE CRIME, ADJUDICATION, SCHOOL VIOLENCE,
7 SCHOOL DROPOUTS, AND FUNDS EXPENDED FOR JUVENILE PROGRAMS IN THE
8 LOCALITY, AND TO PRESCRIBE OTHER PURPOSES; AND FOR RELATED
9 PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
10 MISSISSIPPI:

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12 SECTION 1. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited
13 as the "Mississippi Crime and Juvenile Justice Information Act of
14 1998."

15 (2) The board of supervisors of each county may, in its
16 discretion, establish a local Crime and Juvenile Justice
17 Commission, or "commission," consisting of the following public
18 officials or their designated employees who shall serve ex
19 officio:

20 (a) The youth court judge of the county, or the
21 chancellor with youth court jurisdiction for the county, as the
22 case may be, who shall serve as chairman of the commission; if the
23 youth court judge is unable to serve, the commission shall elect a
24 chairman from the membership;

25 (b) The superintendent of schools of each school
26 district located within the county;

27 (c) The sheriff of the county;

28 (d) The chief of police of each municipality located
29 within the county;

30 (e) The senior school attendance officer serving each

31 school district located within the county;

32 (f) The chief county health officer;

33 (g) The Mayor and president of the city council/board
34 of aldermen of each municipality located within the county;

35 (h) The president of the board of supervisors of the
36 county;

37 (i) The senior youth court counsellor serving the youth
38 court of the county; and

39 (j) The director of the community mental health/mental
40 retardation center located within, or serving the county.

41 (3) The Local Crime and Juvenile Justice Commission of each
42 county shall meet at least quarterly, in the county courthouse,
43 city hall or other public building at a time designated by the
44 chairman of the local commission. The following information shall
45 be presented by the following commission members at each meeting:

46 (a) The sheriff of the county and each chief of police
47 shall present statistics on the incidents of juvenile crime in the
48 county or municipality;

49 (b) The youth court judge and youth court counsellor
50 shall present statistics on youth court petitions, adjudications,
51 nonadjudications and abuse and neglect cases as allowed by
52 confidentiality provisions;

53 (c) The superintendent of each school district shall
54 present statistics on arrests on school property, incidents of
55 rape or any violent action against another person which occurred
56 on school property;

57 (d) The school attendance officer of each school
58 district shall present statistics on school dropouts, unlawful
59 absences and any petitions filed for violation of the Mississippi
60 Compulsory School Attendance Law;

61 (e) The county health officer shall present statistics
62 on incidents of communicable diseases affecting juveniles reported
63 in that county;

64 (f) The director of the mental health/retardation
65 center serving the county shall present statistics on the number
66 of juveniles treated for alcohol/drug abuse or other mental
67 condition, whether referred by the school or not; and

68 (g) The president of the board of supervisors, mayor
69 and president of the city councils/board of aldermen shall present
70 statistics on the funds expended on programs relating to juvenile
71 justice, juvenile law enforcement, alternative school programs,
72 home intervention programs for juveniles and any other program
73 relating to juvenile crime prevention in the county/municipality.

74 Each commission meeting shall be open to the public, and the
75 chairman shall allow public comment following the required
76 presentations and any response by members of the commission.
77 The purpose of each meeting shall be to inform the taxpayers of
78 the respective counties and municipalities of the rate of juvenile
79 crime in their county/municipality and to inform them of the
80 amount of funds being expended to prevent that juvenile crime
81 through the juvenile justice system, schools and intervention
82 programs.

83 (4) Members of the local crime and juvenile justice
84 commissions shall receive no compensation or expense reimbursement
85 for attending meetings of the commission.

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