

By: Clark

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 97

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 ESTABLISH JUNE 19 (JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY) AS A LEGAL
3 HOLIDAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 3-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:[JU1]

7 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
8 of this section, the following are declared to be legal holidays,
9 viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the third Monday
10 of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King,
11 Jr.'s birthday); the third Monday of February (Washington's
12 birthday); the last Monday of April (Confederate Memorial Day);
13 the last Monday of May (National Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis'
14 birthday); the nineteenth day of June (Juneteenth Independence
15 Day); the fourth day of July (Independence Day); the first Monday
16 of September (Labor Day); the eleventh day of November (Armistice
17 or Veterans' Day); the day fixed by proclamation by the Governor
18 of Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to
19 correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the United
20 States (Thanksgiving Day); and the twenty-fifth day of December
21 (Christmas Day). In the event any holiday hereinbefore declared

22 legal shall fall on Sunday, then the next following day shall be a
23 legal holiday.

24 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
25 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
26 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
27 birthday), the governing authorities of any municipality or county
28 may declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or
29 any one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal holiday.

30 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aron Presley Day in
31 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aron Presley's many
32 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
33 to us by Elvis Aron Presley. This day shall be a day of
34 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
35 holiday.

36 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
37 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
38 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
39 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
40 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
41 one hundred eighty-seven-day journey from the Tombigbee River
42 basin on our state's eastern boundary, westward to the place of
43 discovery of the Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall
44 be a day of commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando
45 de Soto and European exploration and shall not be recognized as a
46 legal holiday.

47 (5) Insofar as possible, Armistice Day shall be observed by
48 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
49 Mississippi at the eleventh hour in the morning of the eleventh
50 day of the eleventh month of the year.

51 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
52 and after its passage.