

By: Rogers

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 444
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 99-5-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING PERSONS TAKING INSUFFICIENT BAIL BONDS
3 OR NEGLECTING TO TAKE BAIL BONDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 99-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 99-5-19. If any sheriff, chief of police or any other
8 person, except a properly authorized judge in open court,
9 authorized to release a criminal defendant neglects to take a bail
10 bond, or if the bail bond from any cause is insufficient at the
11 time he took and approved the same, on exceptions taken and filed
12 before the close of the next term, after the same should have been
13 returned, and upon reasonable notice thereof to the sheriff, chief
14 of police or person, he shall stand as special bail, and judgment
15 shall be rendered against him as such, except when bond is
16 tendered by a fidelity or insurance company or professional bail
17 agent or its bail agent authorized by Mississippi state license to
18 act as bail surety. The sheriff, chief of police or person,
19 taking and approving a bail bond from a fidelity or insurance
20 company or professional bail agent or its bail agent with a valid
21 Mississippi state license shall bear no financial liability on the
22 bail bond in the event of a bail bond forfeiture or default.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
24 and after July 1, 2000.