

By: Robinson (84th), Stevens, Barbour,  
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Rushing

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 921  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-3-411, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY DAMAGE TO A MOTOR VEHICLE  
3 INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT THAT IS REQUIRED BEFORE THE DRIVER MUST  
4 MAKE CERTAIN REPORTS TO THE LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE SHERIFF'S  
5 OFFICE OR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; AND FOR RELATED  
6 PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 63-3-411, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 63-3-411. (1) The driver of a vehicle involved in an  
11 accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or total  
12 property damage to an apparent extent of Five Hundred Dollars  
13 (\$500.00) or more shall immediately, by the quickest means of  
14 communication, give notice of the collision to the local police  
15 department if the collision occurs within an incorporated  
16 municipality, or if the collision occurs outside of an  
17 incorporated municipality to the nearest sheriff's office or  
18 highway patrol station.

19 (2) The driver of a vehicle involved in an accident  
20 resulting in injury to or death of any person or total property  
21 damage to an apparent extent of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)  
22 or more shall forward within ten (10) days after such accident, a  
23 written report of such accident to the department.

24 (3) The department may require any driver of a vehicle  
25 involved in an accident, of which report must be made as provided  
26 in this section, to file supplemental reports whenever the  
27 original report is insufficient in the opinion of the department.  
28 Additionally, the department may require witnesses of accidents to

29 render reports to the department.

30 (4) It shall be the duty of the highway patrol or the  
31 sheriff's office to investigate all accidents required to be  
32 reported by this section when the accident occurs outside the  
33 corporate limits of a municipality, and it shall be the duty of  
34 the police department of each municipality to investigate all  
35 accidents required to be reported by this section when the  
36 accidents occur within the corporate limits of the municipality.

37 Every law enforcement officer who investigates an accident as  
38 required by this subsection, whether the investigation is made at  
39 the scene of the accident or by subsequent investigation and  
40 interviews, shall forward within six (6) days after completing the  
41 investigation a written report of the accident to the department  
42 if the accident occurred outside the corporate limits of a  
43 municipality, or to the police department of the municipality if  
44 the accident occurred within the corporate limits of such  
45 municipality. Police departments shall forward such reports to  
46 the department within six (6) days of the date of the accident.

47 (5) Whenever an engineer of a railroad locomotive, or other  
48 person in charge of a train, is required to show proof of his  
49 identity under the provisions of this article, in connection with  
50 operation of such locomotive, to any law enforcement officer, such  
51 person shall not be required to display his operator's or  
52 chauffeur's license but shall display his railroad employee  
53 number.

54 (6) In addition to the information required on the  
55 "statewide uniform traffic accident report" forms provided by  
56 Section 63-3-415, the department shall require the parties  
57 involved in an accident and the witnesses of such accident to  
58 furnish their phone numbers in order to assist the investigation  
59 by law enforcement officers.

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