

By: Stringer, Holland, Eaton, McCoy, Moody, To: Judiciary A
Shows, Taylor, Warren

HOUSE BILL NO. 1018
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-3-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT IT SHALL NOT BE UNLAWFUL FOR A RETIRED STATE HIGHWAY
3 SAFETY PATROL OFFICER, WITH PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM THE
4 COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY, TO WEAR THE UNIFORM AND INSIGNIA OF
5 THE STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 45-3-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:[JWB1]

9 45-3-29. (1) Except as otherwise authorized under this
10 section, it shall be unlawful for any person not authorized so to
11 do to impersonate a State Highway Safety patrolman, wear or use
12 the insignia or uniform thereof, or to in anywise imitate or
13 impersonate such patrolman. Any person adjudged guilty of
14 violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon
15 conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than One
16 Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail,
17 where such offense is committed, for a term not exceeding one (1)
18 year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Nothing in this
19 section, however, shall be construed to prevent or preclude the
20 boards of supervisors of the several counties from employing
21 county highway patrolmen as presently authorized by law, and said
22 county patrolmen shall, when authorized by the commissioner and
23 under rules and regulations with respect thereto, after completing
24 such examinations and meeting such requirements as are specified
25 by the commissioner, be entitled to wear the uniform and insignia
26 of State Highway Safety patrolmen and discharge the duties
27 thereof.

28 (2) It shall not be unlawful or a violation of this section
29 for a retired State Highway Safety Patrol officer to wear the
30 uniform and insignia of the State Highway Safety Patrol when
31 making presentations, delivering speeches or addressing public or
32 private audiences for the purpose of entertaining or amusing such
33 audiences provided such retired officer obtains written
34 authorization from the Commissioner of Public Safety before
35 engaging in such events. The approval of the commissioner shall
36 not be required for each separate event but shall remain effective
37 as an authorization for all such events until revoked or rescinded
38 by the commissioner.

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