

By: Coleman (65th), Banks, Clarke, Evans, To: Appropriations  
Fleming, Fredericks, Robinson (63rd), Wallace

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1239

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 DECLARE THE FOURTH DAY OF JULY AS A LEGAL HOLIDAY IN RECOGNITION  
3 OF MEDGAR EVERS' BIRTHDAY; 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:

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 fourth day of July (Independence Day and Medgar  
15 Evers' birthday); the first Monday of September (Labor Day); the  
16 eleventh day of November (Armistice or Veterans' Day); the day  
17 fixed by proclamation by the Governor of Mississippi as a day of  
18 Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to correspond to the date  
19 proclaimed by the President of the United States (Thanksgiving  
20 Day); and the twenty-fifth day of December (Christmas Day). In  
21 the event any holiday hereinbefore declared legal shall fall on  
22 Sunday, then the next following day shall be a legal holiday.

23 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in  
24 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third  
25 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s,  
26 birthday), the governing authorities of any municipality or county

27 may declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or  
28 any one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal holiday.

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

35 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in  
36 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,  
37 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by  
38 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of  
39 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's  
40 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's  
41 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the  
42 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of  
43 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and  
44 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal  
45 holiday.

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

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