

By: Representative Pierce

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 135

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-9-73, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CREATE THE CRIME OF FLEEING OR ELUDING A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
3 IN A MOTOR VEHICLE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 97-9-73, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 97-9-73. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to
8 obstruct or resist by force, or violence, or threats, or in any
9 other manner, his lawful arrest or the lawful arrest of another
10 person by any state, local or federal law enforcement officer, and
11 any person or persons so doing shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,
12 and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not
13 more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in
14 the county jail not more than six (6) months, or both.

15 (2) It is unlawful for the operator of any vehicle knowingly
16 and wilfully to refuse or fail to stop the vehicle in compliance
17 with the directive of a duly authorized law enforcement officer
18 or, having stopped in knowing compliance with the directive,
19 wilfully to flee in an attempt to elude the officer, and a person
20 who violates this subsection, upon conviction, shall be guilty of
21 a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail
22 for a period not to exceed five (5) years, or by a fine not to
23 exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by both fine and
24 imprisonment.

25 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
26 and after July 1, 2001.

