

By: Representatives Evans, Perkins, Robinson To: Appropriations
(63rd), Wallace, Watson

HOUSE BILL NO. 858

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 WILEY 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 Wiley Evers' birthday); the first Monday of September (Labor Day);
16 the 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, 2001.

