

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Williamson

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 3002

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-41-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REVISE ENFORCEMENT OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW; AND FOR RELATED  
3 PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 25-41-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 25-41-15. (1) Any person who shall willfully and knowingly  
8 violate the provisions of this chapter shall be liable civilly in  
9 a sum not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), plus all  
10 reasonable expenses incurred by the person bringing the lawsuit.  
11 In addition, any public body found to be in violation of this  
12 chapter, having been assessed a civil penalty and ordered to pay  
13 reasonable expenses incurred by a person securing a judgment  
14 against it, may seek a civil judgment against the members or any  
15 one (1) of them of the public body responsible for the violation  
16 in order to recover the monies assess against the public body.

17 (2) The chancery courts of this state shall have the  
18 authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter and shall have  
19 jurisdiction of all civil actions brought for such purpose.  
20 Enforcement actions may be brought by citizen of the state and may  
21 include, without limitation, requests for injunctions or writs of  
22 mandamus to accomplish the purpose of this chapter.

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