

*****Withdrawn*****

AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

House Bill NO. 820

By Senator(s) Walls

1 **AMEND by inserting after line 146 the following, and**
2 **renumbering subsequent sections accordingly:**

3 SECTION *. Section 97-37-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
4 amended as follows:

5 97-37-7. (1) It shall not be a violation of Section 97-37-1
6 or any other statute for pistols, firearms or other suitable and
7 appropriate weapons to be carried by duly constituted bank guards,
8 company guards, watchmen, railroad special agents or duly
9 authorized representatives, agents or employees of a patrol
10 service, guard service, or a company engaged in the business of
11 transporting money, securities or other valuables, while actually
12 engaged in the performance of their duties as such, provided that
13 such persons are under bond in a sum of not less than One Thousand
14 Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the lawful and faithful performance of
15 their duties, the cost of which bond shall be paid by the employer
16 of such persons; and further provided that such persons have first
17 made written application and obtained an annual permit so to do
18 from the sheriff of the county in which they are employed.
19 Provided, however, that where the duties of any person covered by
20 the provisions of this paragraph may carry him into more than one

21 county, such person may file a bond in the sum of Two Thousand
22 Dollars (\$2,000.00) with the Commissioner of Public Safety, for
23 the lawful and faithful performance of his duties, the cost of the
24 bond shall be paid by the employer of such person, and provided
25 further that such person has first made written application with
26 and obtained a permit so to do from the Commissioner of Public
27 Safety, and said permit shall be valid as a statewide permit. No
28 such permit shall be issued to any person who has ever been
29 convicted of a felony under the laws of this or any other state or
30 of the United States.

31 (2) It shall further not be a violation of this or any other
32 statute for pistols, firearms or other suitable and appropriate
33 weapons to be carried by Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and
34 Parks law enforcement officers, investigators employed by the
35 Attorney General, district attorneys, legal assistants to district
36 attorneys, criminal investigators employed by the district
37 attorneys, investigators or probation officers employed by the
38 Department of Corrections, employees of the State Auditor who are
39 authorized by the State Auditor to perform investigative
40 functions, or any deputy fire marshal or investigator employed by
41 the State Fire Marshal, while engaged in the performance of their
42 duties as such, or by fraud investigators with the Department of
43 Human Services, or by judges of the Mississippi Supreme Court,
44 Court of Appeals, circuit, chancery, county and municipal courts.

45 Before any person shall be authorized under this subsection to
46 carry a weapon, he shall complete a weapons training course
47 approved by the Board of Law Enforcement Officer Standards and
48 Training. Before any criminal investigator employed by a district
49 attorney shall be authorized under this section to carry a pistol,
50 firearm or other weapon, he shall have complied with Section

51 45-6-11 or any training program required for employment as an
52 agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. A law enforcement
53 officer, as defined in Section 45-6-3, shall be authorized to
54 carry weapons in courthouses in performance of his official
55 duties. This section shall in no way interfere with the right of
56 a trial judge to restrict the carrying of firearms in the
57 courtroom.

58 (3) It shall not be a violation of this or any other statute
59 for pistols, firearms or other suitable and appropriate weapons,
60 to be carried by any out-of-state, full-time commissioned law
61 enforcement officer who holds a valid commission card from the
62 appropriate out-of-state law enforcement agency and a photo
63 identification. The provisions of this subsection shall only
64 apply if the state where the out-of-state officer is employed has
65 entered into a reciprocity agreement with the state that allows
66 full-time commissioned law enforcement officers in Mississippi to
67 lawfully carry or possess a weapon in such other states. The
68 Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to enter into
69 reciprocal agreements with other states to carry out the
70 provisions of this subsection.

71 **FURTHER, amend the title by inserting after the semicolon on**
72 **line 4 the following:**
73 TO AMEND SECTION 97-37-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE
74 DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND THEIR LEGAL ASSISTANTS TO CARRY CONCEALED
75 WEAPONS;