

By: Representative Reeves

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 121

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 11-1-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE TIME FOR RENDITION OF A FINAL DECREE ON MATTERS TAKEN
3 UNDER ADVISEMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 11-1-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 11-1-17. All chancellors or judges of the chancery and
8 circuit courts of the State of Mississippi shall render their
9 final decree on any and all matters taken under advisement by such
10 chancellors or judges not later than thirty (30) days after the
11 date when same are taken under advisement or not later than thirty
12 (30) days after the date on which the chancellors or courts or
13 judges set as a date for the final brief or memoranda of authority
14 is required to be filed on or as to the cause taken under
15 advisement, whichever is the latest date after the date on which
16 the cause or case is taken under advisement.

17 In the event a final decree has not been entered within the
18 thirty-day period hereinbefore referred to, then any party to said
19 law suit shall have the right to appeal on the record as otherwise
20 provided the same as if a final decree has been rendered
21 adversely. Said appeal shall be to the Supreme Court of the State
22 of Mississippi and shall be treated as a preferred case over other
23 cases except election contests.

24 If a final decree has not been entered within the thirty-day
25 period, the Supreme Court shall charge the chancellor or judge
26 with attorney's fees and costs involved. The chancellor or judge
27 shall not take any action against a prevailing attorney who



28 successfully receives a final decree as a result of following the
29 provisions of this section.

30 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
31 and after its passage.

