By: Representative Ford

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 431 (As Sent to Governor)

- AN ACT TO REENACT SECTIONS 13-7-1, 13-7-3, 13-7-5, 13-7-7, 13-7-9, 13-7-11, 13-7-13, 13-7-15, 13-7-17, 13-7-19, 13-7-21, 13-7-23, 13-7-25, 13-7-27, 13-7-29, 13-7-31, 13-7-33, 13-7-35, 13-7-37, 13-7-39, 13-7-41, 13-7-43, 13-7-45, 13-7-47 AND 13-7-49, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATE THE STATE GRAND JURY ACT AND PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATION OF A STATE GRAND JURY; TO AMEND SECTION 99-11-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE REPEALER ON VENUE FOR INDICTMENTS BY THE STATE GRAND JURY; TO AMEND SECTION 27 OF CHAPTER 553, LAWS OF 1993, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER 382, LAWS OF 1998, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER 480, LAWS OF 1999, TO EXTEND THE REPEALER ON THE STATE GRAND JURY ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- SECTION 1. Section 13-7-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 14 reenacted as follows:
- 15 13-7-1. This chapter may be cited as the "State Grand Jury
- 16 Act," and any state grand jury which may be convened as provided
- 17 herein shall be known as "State Grand Jury of Mississippi."
- 18 SECTION 2. Section 13-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 19 reenacted as follows:
- 20 13-7-3. For purposes of this chapter:
- 21 (a) The phrase "Attorney General or his designee" also
- 22 includes:
- 23 (i) The Attorney General or his designees;
- 24 (ii) The Attorney General and his designee or
- 25 designees.
- 26 (b) The term "impaneling judge" means any senior
- 27 circuit court judge of any circuit court district who, upon
- 28 petition by the Attorney General, impanels a state grand jury
- 29 under the provisions of this chapter and shall also include any
- 30 successor to such judge as provided by law.

- 31 **SECTION 3.** Section 13-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 32 reenacted as follows:
- 33 13-7-5. There is established a state grand jury system.
- 34 Each state grand jury shall consist of twenty (20) persons who may
- 35 be impaneled and who may meet at any suitable location within the
- 36 state as designated by the impaneling judge. Fifteen (15) members
- 37 of a state grand jury constitute a quorum.
- 38 SECTION 4. Section 13-7-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 39 reenacted as follows:
- 40 13-7-7. (1) The jurisdiction of a state grand jury
- 41 impaneled under this chapter extends throughout the state. The
- 42 subject matter jurisdiction of a state grand jury in all cases is
- 43 limited to offenses involving any and all conduct made unlawful by
- 44 the Mississippi Uniform Controlled Substance Law or any other
- 45 provision of law involving narcotics, dangerous drugs or
- 46 controlled substances, or any crime arising out of or in
- 47 connection with a crime involving narcotics, dangerous drugs or
- 48 controlled substances, and crimes involving any attempt, aiding,
- 49 abetting, solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of the
- 50 aforementioned crimes if the crimes occur within more than one (1)
- 51 circuit court district or have transpired or are transpiring or
- 52 have significance in more than one (1) circuit court district of
- 53 this state.
- 54 (2) Whenever the Attorney General considers it necessary,
- 55 and normal investigative or prosecutorial procedures are not
- 56 adequate, the Attorney General may petition in writing to the
- 57 senior circuit court judge of any circuit court district in this
- 58 state for an order impaneling a state grand jury. For the
- 59 purposes of this chapter, such judge shall be referred to as the
- 60 impaneling judge. The petition must allege the following:
- 61 (a) The type of offenses to be inquired into;
- (b) That the state grand jury has jurisdiction to
- 63 consider such matters;

- That the offenses to be inquired into have occurred 64 (C)
- 65 within more than one (1) circuit court district or have transpired
- 66 or are transpiring or have significance in more than one (1)
- 67 circuit court district of this state;
- 68 That the Attorney General has conferred with the
- 69 Commissioner of Public Safety and the Director of the Mississippi
- 70 Bureau of Narcotics and that each of such officials join in the
- petition; and 71
- That the Attorney General has conferred with the 72 (e)
- appropriate district attorney for each jurisdiction in which the 73
- 74 crime or crimes are alleged to have occurred.
- 75 The impaneling judge, after due consideration of the
- 76 petition, may order the impanelment of a state grand jury in
- 77 accordance with the petition for a term of twelve (12) calendar
- Upon petition by the Attorney General, the impaneling 78 months.
- judge, by order, may extend the term of that state grand jury for 79
- a period of six (6) months, but the term of that state grand jury, 80
- including any extension thereof, shall not exceed two (2) years. 81
- The impaneling judge shall preside over the state grand 82
- 83 jury until its discharge.
- The impaneling judge may discharge a state grand jury 84 (5)
- 85 prior to the end of its original term or any extensions thereof,
- upon a determination that its business has been completed, or upon 86
- the request of the Attorney General. 87
- 88 If, at any time within the original term of any state
- grand jury or any extension thereof, the impaneling judge 89
- 90 determines that the state grand jury is not conducting
- investigative activity within its jurisdiction or proper 91
- investigative activity, the impaneling judge may limit the 92
- investigations so that the investigation conforms with the 93
- jurisdiction of the state grand jury and existing law or he may 94
- 95 discharge the state grand jury. An order issued pursuant to this
- subsection or under subsection (5) of this section shall not 96

- 97 become effective less than ten (10) days after the date on which
- 98 it is issued and actual notice given to the Attorney General and
- 99 the foreman of the state grand jury, and may be appealed by the
- 100 Attorney General to the Supreme Court. If an appeal from the
- 101 order is made, the state grand jury, except as otherwise ordered
- 102 by the Supreme Court, shall continue to exercise its powers
- 103 pending disposition of the appeal.
- 104 SECTION 5. Section 13-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 105 reenacted as follows:
- 106 13-7-9. A state grand jury may return indictments
- 107 irrespective of the county or judicial district where the offense
- 108 is committed. If an indictment is returned, it must be certified
- 109 and transferred for prosecution to the county designated by the
- 110 impaneling judge. The powers and duties of and the law applicable
- 111 to county grand juries apply to the state grand jury, except when
- 112 such powers and duties and applicable law are inconsistent with
- 113 the provisions of this chapter.
- 114 SECTION 6. Section 13-7-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 115 reenacted as follows:
- 116 13-7-11. The Attorney General or his designee shall attend
- 117 sessions of a state grand jury and shall serve as its legal
- 118 advisor. The Attorney General or his designee shall examine
- 119 witnesses, present evidence, and draft indictments and reports
- 120 upon the direction of a state grand jury.
- 121 SECTION 7. Section 13-7-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 122 reenacted as follows:
- 123 13-7-13. The impaneling judge shall appoint a circuit clerk
- 124 who shall serve as the clerk of the state grand jury. The
- 125 compensation of the state grand jury clerk shall be paid out of
- 126 any available funds appropriated for that purpose.
- 127 SECTION 8. Section 13-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 128 reenacted as follows:



13-7-15. After the impaneling judge orders a term for the 129 state grand jury on petition of the Attorney General, the 130 impaneling judge shall order that the circuit clerk for each 131 132 county shall proceed to draw at random from the jury box as 133 provided by Section 13-5-26, the name of one (1) voter of such county for each two thousand (2,000) voters or fraction thereof 134 registered in such county and shall place these names on a list. 135 The circuit clerk shall not disqualify or excuse any individual 136 When the list is compiled, the clerk of the 137 whose name is drawn. circuit court for each county shall forward the list to the clerk 138 139 of the state grand jury. Upon receipt of all the lists from the clerks of the circuit courts, the clerk of the state grand jury 140 141 shall place all the names so received upon a list which shall be known as the master list. 142 The impaneling judge shall order the clerk of the state grand 143 jury to produce the master list and shall direct the random 144 drawing of the names of one hundred (100) persons from the master 145 146 The names drawn shall be given to the clerk of the state grand jury who shall cause each person drawn for service to be 147 148 served with a summons either personally by the sheriff of the county where the juror resides or by mail, addressed to the juror 149 150 at his usual residence, business or post office address, requiring 151 him to report for state grand jury service at a specified time and place as designated by the impaneling judge. From the one hundred 152 153 (100) persons summoned, a state grand jury shall be drawn for that term consisting of twenty (20) persons. State grand jurors must 154 155 be drawn in the same manner as jurors are drawn for service on the county grand jury. 156 All qualified persons shall be liable to serve as state grand 157 158 jurors, unless excused by the court for one (1) of the following 159 causes:

160	(a) When the juror is ill, or when on account of
161	erious illness in the juror's family, the presence of the juro
162	s required at home;

- 163 (b) When the juror's attendance would cause a serious
 164 financial loss to the juror or to the juror's business; or
- (c) When the juror is under an emergency, fairly
 equivalent to those mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs (a) and
 (b).

An excuse of illness under paragraph (a) may be made to the state grand jury clerk outside of open court by providing the clerk with either a certificate of a licensed physician or an affidavit of the juror, stating that the juror is ill or that there is a serious illness in the juror's family. The test of an excuse under paragraph (b) shall be whether, if the juror were incapacitated by illness or otherwise for a week, some other persons would be available or could reasonably be procured to carry on the business for the week, and the test of an excuse under paragraph (c) shall be such as to be the fair equivalent, under the circumstances of that prescribed under paragraph (b). In cases under paragraphs (b) and (c) the excuse must be made by the juror, in open court, under oath.

It shall be unlawful for any employer or other person to persuade or attempt to persuade any juror to avoid jury service, or to intimidate or to threaten any juror in that respect. So to do shall be deemed an interference with the administration of justice and a contempt of court and punishable as such.

Every citizen over sixty-five (65) years of age shall be
exempt from service if he claims the privilege. No qualified
juror shall be excluded because of such reason, but the same shall
be a personal privilege to be claimed by any person selected for
state grand jury duty. Any citizen over sixty-five (65) years of
age may claim this personal privilege outside of open court by

- 192 providing the clerk of court with information that allows the
- 193 clerk to determine the validity of the claim.
- 194 The state grand jurors shall be charged by the impaneling
- 195 judge as to their authority and responsibility under the law and
- 196 each juror shall be sworn pursuant to Section 13-5-45. Nothing in
- 197 this section shall be construed as limiting the right of the
- 198 Attorney General or his designee to request that a potential state
- 199 grand juror be excused for cause. The jury selection process
- 200 shall be conducted by the impaneling judge. Jurors of a state
- 201 grand jury shall receive reimbursement for travel and mileage as
- 202 provided for state employees by Section 25-3-41 and shall be paid
- 203 per diem compensation in the amount provided by Section 25-3-69.
- 204 All compensation and expenses for meals and lodging of state grand
- 205 jurors shall be paid out of any available funds appropriated for
- 206 that purpose.
- SECTION 9. Section 13-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 208 reenacted as follows:
- 209 13-7-17. The impaneling judge shall appoint one (1) of the
- 210 jurors to be a foreman and another to be deputy foreman. During
- 211 the absence of the foreman, the deputy foreman shall act as
- 212 foreman. The foreman and deputy foreman shall be sworn pursuant
- 213 to Section 13-5-45.
- SECTION 10. Section 13-7-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 215 reenacted as follows:
- 216 13-7-19. After the state grand jurors shall have been sworn
- 217 and impaneled, no objections shall be raised by plea or otherwise,
- 218 to the state grand jury, but the impaneling of the state grand
- 219 jury shall be conclusive evidence of its competency and
- 220 qualifications. However, any party interested may challenge the
- 221 jury, except to the array, for fraud.
- 222 SECTION 11. Section 13-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 223 reenacted as follows:



224	13-7-21. The clerk of the state grand jury, upon request of
225	the Attorney General or his designee, shall issue subpoenas, or
226	subpoenas duces tecum to compel individuals, documents or other
227	materials to be brought from anywhere in the state or another
228	state to a state grand jury. In addition, a state grand jury may
229	proceed in the same manner as is provided for by law in relation
230	to the issuance of subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum; however,
231	the provisions of such law shall not be considered a limitation
232	upon this section, but shall be supplemental thereto. The
233	subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum may be for investigative
234	purposes and for the retention of documents or other materials so
235	subpoenaed for proper criminal proceedings. Any investigator
236	employed by the Attorney General or any law enforcement officer
237	with appropriate jurisdiction is empowered to serve such subpoenas
238	and subpoenas duces tecum and receive such documents and other
239	materials for return to a state grand jury. Any person violating
240	a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued pursuant to this
241	chapter, or who fails to fully answer all questions put to him
242	before proceedings of the state grand jury whenever the response
243	thereto is not privileged or otherwise protected by law, including
244	the granting of immunity as authorized by this chapter, or any
245	other law, may be punished by the impaneling judge for contempt
246	provided the response is not privileged or otherwise protected by
247	law. The Attorney General or his designee may petition the
248	impaneling judge to compel compliance by the person alleged to
249	have committed the violation or who has failed to answer. If the
250	impaneling judge considers compliance is warranted, he may order
251	compliance and may punish the individual for contempt, as provided
252	in Section 9-1-17, where the compliance does not occur. The clerk
253	of the state grand jury may also issue subpoenas and subpoenas
254	duces tecum to compel individuals, documents or other materials to
255	be brought from anywhere in the state to the trial of any
256	indictment returned by a state grand jury or the trial of any
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- 257 civil forfeiture action arising out of an investigation conducted
- 258 by a state grand jury.
- SECTION 12. Section 13-7-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 260 reenacted as follows:
- 261 13-7-23. Once a state grand jury has entered into a term,
- 262 the petition and order establishing and impaneling the state grand
- 263 jury may be amended as often as necessary and appropriate so as to
- 264 expand the areas of inquiry authorized by the order or to add
- 265 additional areas of inquiry thereto, consistent with the
- 266 provisions of this chapter. The procedures for amending this
- 267 authority are the same as those for filing the original petition
- 268 and order.
- SECTION 13. Section 13-7-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 270 reenacted as follows:
- 271 13-7-25. A court reporter shall record either
- 272 stenographically or by use of an electronic recording device, all
- 273 state grand jury proceedings except when the state grand jury is
- 274 deliberating or voting. Subject to the limitations of Section
- 275 13-7-29 and any rule of court, a defendant has the right to review
- 276 and to reproduce the stenographically or electronically recorded
- 277 materials. Transcripts of the recorded testimony or proceedings
- 278 must be made when requested by the Attorney General or his
- 279 designee. An unintentional failure of any recording to reproduce
- 280 all or any portion of the testimony or proceeding shall not affect
- 281 the validity of the prosecution. The recording or reporter's
- 282 notes or any transcript prepared therefrom and all books, papers,
- 283 records and correspondence produced before the state grand jury
- 284 shall remain in the custody and control of the Attorney General or
- 285 his designee unless otherwise ordered by the court in a particular
- 286 case.
- SECTION 14. Section 13-7-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 288 reenacted as follows:



289 13-7-27. The foreman shall administer an oath or affirmation

290 in the manner prescribed by law to any witness who testifies

- 291 before a state grand jury.
- 292 **SECTION 15.** Section 13-7-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 293 reenacted as follows:
- 294 13-7-29. (1) State grand jury proceedings are secret, and a
- 295 state grand juror shall not disclose the nature or substance of
- 296 the deliberations or vote of the state grand jury. The only
- 297 persons who may be present in the state grand jury room when a
- 298 state grand jury is in session, except for deliberations and
- 299 voting, are the state grand jurors, the Attorney General or his
- 300 designees, an interpreter if necessary and the witness testifying.
- 301 A state grand juror, the Attorney General or his designees, any
- 302 interpreter used and any person to whom disclosure is made
- 303 pursuant to subsection (2)(b) of this section may not disclose the
- 304 testimony of a witness examined before a state grand jury or other
- 305 evidence received by it except when directed by a court for the
- 306 purpose of:
- 307 (a) Ascertaining whether it is consistent with the
- 308 testimony given by the witness before the court in any subsequent
- 309 criminal proceedings;
- 310 (b) Determining whether the witness is guilty of
- 311 perjury;
- 312 (c) Assisting local, state or federal law enforcement
- 313 or investigating agencies, including another grand jury, in
- 314 investigating crimes under their investigative jurisdiction;
- 315 (d) Providing the defendant the materials to which he
- 316 is entitled pursuant to Section 13-7-25; or
- 317 (e) Complying with constitutional, statutory or other
- 318 legal requirements or to further justice.
- If the court orders disclosure of matters occurring before a
- 320 state grand jury, the disclosure shall be made in that manner, at
- 321 that time, and under those conditions as the court directs.

- 322 (2) In addition, disclosure of testimony of a witness
 323 examined before a state grand jury or other evidence received by
 324 it may be made without being directed by a court to:
- 325 (a) The Attorney General or his designees for use in 326 the performance of their duties; or
- Those governmental personnel, including personnel 327 of the state or its political subdivisions, as are considered 328 329 necessary by the Attorney General or his designee to assist in the performance of their duties to enforce the criminal laws of the 330 state; however, any person to whom matters are disclosed under 331 332 this paragraph (b) shall not utilize the state grand jury material for purposes other than assisting the Attorney General or his 333 designee in the performance of their duties to enforce the 334 335 criminal laws of this state. The Attorney General or his 336 designees shall promptly provide the impaneling judge the names of the persons to whom the disclosure has been made and shall certify 337 that he has advised these persons of their obligations of secrecy 338
- 340 (3) Nothing in this section affects the attorney-client
 341 relationship. A client has the right to communicate to his
 342 attorney any testimony given by the client to a state grand jury,
 343 any matters involving the client discussed in the client's
 344 presence before a state grand jury and evidence involving the
 345 client received by a proffer to a state grand jury in the client's
 346 presence.
- 347 (4) Any person violating the provisions of this section is 348 guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by 349 a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by a 350 term of imprisonment not exceeding one (1) year, or by both such 351 fine and imprisonment.
- 352 (5) State grand jurors, the Attorney General and his 353 designee, any interpreter used and the clerk of the state grand

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under this section.

- 354 jury shall be sworn to secrecy and also may be punished for
- 355 criminal contempt for violations of this section.
- 356 **SECTION 16.** Section 13-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 357 reenacted as follows:
- 358 13-7-31. Except for the prosecution of cases arising from
- 359 indictments issued by the state grand jury, the impaneling judge
- 360 has jurisdiction to hear all matters arising from the proceedings
- 361 of a state grand jury, including, but not limited to, matters
- 362 related to the impanelment or removal of state grand jurors, the
- 363 quashing of subpoenas and the punishment for contempt.
- **SECTION 17.** Section 13-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 365 reenacted as follows:
- 366 13-7-33. The Attorney General or his designee shall
- 367 coordinate the scheduling of activities of any state grand jury.
- 368 **SECTION 18.** Section 13-7-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 369 reenacted as follows:
- 370 13-7-35. (1) In order to return a "True Bill" of
- 371 indictment, twelve (12) or more state grand jurors must find that
- 372 probable cause exists for the indictment and vote in favor of the
- 373 indictment. Upon indictment by a state grand jury, the indictment
- 374 shall be returned to the impaneling judge. If the impaneling
- 375 judge considers the indictment to be within the authority of the
- 376 state grand jury and otherwise in accordance with the provisions
- of this chapter, he shall order the clerk of the state grand jury
- 378 to certify the indictment and return the indictment to the county
- 379 designated by the impaneling judge as the county in which the
- 380 indictment shall be tried.
- 381 (2) Indictments returned by a state grand jury are properly
- 382 triable in any county of the state where any of the alleged
- 383 conduct occurred. The impaneling judge to whom the indictment is
- 384 returned shall designate the county in which the indictment shall
- 385 be tried. If a multicount indictment returned by a state grand
- 386 jury is properly triable in a single proceeding as otherwise

- provided by law, all counts may be tried in the county designated by the impaneling judge notwithstanding the fact that different counts may have occurred in more than one (1) county.
- 390 (3) In determining the venue for indictments returned by a 391 state grand jury, the impaneling judge shall select the county in 392 which the state and defendant may receive a fair trial before an 393 impartial jury taking into consideration the totality of the 394 circumstances of each case.
- 395 (4) When the indictment has been returned to the circuit
 396 clerk of the county designated by the impaneling judge, the capias
 397 shall be issued as otherwise provided by law. The indictment
 398 shall be kept secret until the defendant is in custody or has been
 399 released pending trial.
- 400 **SECTION 19.** Section 13-7-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 401 reenacted as follows:
- 13-7-37. If any person asks to be excused from testifying before a state grand jury or from producing any books, papers,
- 404 records, correspondence or other documents before a state grand
- 405 jury on the ground that the testimony or evidence required of him
- 406 may tend to incriminate him or subject him to any penalty or
- 407 forfeiture and such person, notwithstanding such ground, is
- 408 directed by the impaneling judge to give the testimony or produce
- 409 the evidence, he shall comply with this direction, but no
- 410 testimony so given or evidence produced may be received against
- 411 him in any criminal action, investigation or criminal proceeding.
- 412 No individual testifying or producing evidence or documents is
- 413 exempt from prosecution or punishment for any perjury committed by
- 414 him while so testifying, and the testimony or evidence given or
- 415 produced is admissible against him upon any criminal action,
- 416 criminal investigation or criminal proceeding concerning this
- 417 perjury; however, any individual may execute, acknowledge and file
- 418 a statement with the appropriate court expressly waiving immunity
- 419 or privilege in respect to any testimony given or produced and

- 420 thereupon the testimony or evidence given or produced may be
- 421 received or produced before any judge or justice, court tribunal,
- 422 grand jury or otherwise, and if so received or produced, the
- 423 individual is not entitled to any immunity or privilege on account
- 424 of any testimony he may give or evidence produced.
- 425 **SECTION 20.** Section 13-7-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 426 reenacted as follows:
- 427 13-7-39. Records, orders and subpoenas related to state
- 428 grand jury proceedings shall be kept under seal to the extent and
- 429 for the time that is necessary to prevent disclosure of matters
- 430 occurring before a state grand jury.
- 431 SECTION 21. Section 13-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 432 reenacted as follows:
- 433 13-7-41. The Attorney General shall make available suitable
- 434 space for state grand juries to meet. The Mississippi Department
- 435 of Public Safety and the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics may
- 436 provide such services as required by the Attorney General and the
- 437 state grand juries.
- 438 SECTION 22. Section 13-7-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 439 reenacted as follows:
- 13-7-43. The Supreme Court may promulgate rules as are
- 441 necessary for the operation of the state grand jury system
- 442 established by this chapter.
- SECTION 23. Section 13-7-45, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 444 reenacted as follows:
- 445 13-7-45. If any part of this chapter is declared invalid,
- 446 unenforceable or unconstitutional by a court of competent
- 447 jurisdiction, that part shall be severable from the remaining
- 448 portions of this chapter, which portions shall remain in full
- 449 force and effect as if the invalid, unenforceable or
- 450 unconstitutional portion were omitted.
- 451 SECTION 24. Section 13-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 452 reenacted as follows:

- 13-7-47. This chapter applies to offenses committed both 453
- before and after its effective date. 454
- SECTION 25. Section 13-7-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 455
- 456 reenacted as follows:
- 457 13-7-49. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as
- 458 amending, repealing or superseding any other law of this state
- 459 governing the powers and duties of county grand jurors, district
- 460 attorneys or law enforcement agencies or other officials with
- regard to their authority to investigate, indict or prosecute 461
- offenses that are prescribed by this chapter as within the 462
- 463 jurisdiction of the state grand jury.
- 464 SECTION 26. Section 99-11-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 465 amended as follows:
- 466 99-11-3. (1) The local jurisdiction of all offenses, unless
- 467 otherwise provided by law, shall be in the county where committed.
- But, if on the trial the evidence makes it doubtful in which of 468
- several counties, including that in which the indictment or 469
- 470 affidavit alleges the offense was committed, such doubt shall not
- avail to procure the acquittal of the defendant. 471
- 472 The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall
- not apply to indictments returned by a state grand jury. 473
- 474 venue of trials for indictments returned by a state grand jury
- shall be as provided by the State Grand Jury Act. 475 This subsection
- shall stand repealed from and after July 1, 2005. 476
- 477 SECTION 27. Section 27 of Chapter 553, Laws of 1993, as
- amended by Chapter 382, Laws of 1998, as amended by Chapter 480, 478
- 479 Laws of 1999, is amended as follows:
- 480 Section 27. This act shall take effect and be in force from
- and after its passage, and, with the exception of Section 22, 481
- 482 shall stand repealed from and after July 1, 2005.
- SECTION 28. This act shall take effect and be in force from 483
- 484 and after July 1, 2002.