

By: Representatives McBride, Whittington,  
Horne

To: Judiciary B

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 635

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-41-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE A CIVIL PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS  
3 LAW; AND FOR RELATED 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. The chancery courts of this state shall have the  
8 authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter upon  
9 application of any citizen of the state, and shall have the  
10 authority to issue injunctions or writs of mandamus to accomplish  
11 that purpose. If a court finds that a public body has willfully  
12 and knowingly violated the provisions of this chapter, the  
13 individual members of that public body shall be liable civilly in  
14 a sum not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), plus all  
15 reasonable expenses incurred by such person or persons bringing  
16 the lawsuit.

17 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
18 and after July 1, 2002.

