AN ACT TO CREATE THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION IN THE OFFICE OF
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL; TO PROVIDE THAT THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION
SHALL INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS; AND FOR
RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. There is created and established within the
Office of the Attorney General the "Civil Rights Division" which
shall be charged with the investigation and prosecution of civil
rights cases. The Attorney General shall employ the necessary
personnel to carry out the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. (1) The Civil Rights Division shall investigate
and prosecute civil and criminal cases which result from acts of
discrimination against a person because of the actual or perceived
race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, national origin or
gender of the person.

(2) The Civil Rights Division may bring an action in the
name of the state against any person who commits an act of
discrimination against a person because of the actual or perceived
race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, national origin or
gender of the person.

SECTION 3. The Legislature shall annually appropriate funds
to defray the costs of operating the Civil Rights Division.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2002.