

By: Representative Middleton

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 979

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 75-76-155, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT PERSONS WHO ARE EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND  
3 MARRIED MAY BE GAMING EMPLOYEES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 75-76-155, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 75-76-155. (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, a  
8 person under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall not:

9 (a) Play, be allowed to play, place wagers, or collect  
10 winnings, whether personally or through an agent, from any gaming  
11 authorized under this chapter.

12 (b) Be employed as a gaming employee. However, a  
13 person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older and married may  
14 be a gaming employee.

15 (2) Any licensee, employee, dealer or other person who  
16 violates or permits the violation of any of the provisions of this  
17 section, and any person under twenty-one (21) years of age who  
18 violates any of the provisions of this section shall, upon  
19 conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than One Thousand  
20 Dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned in the county jail not more than  
21 six (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

22 (3) In any prosecution or other proceeding for the violation  
23 of any of the provisions of this section, it is no excuse for the  
24 licensee, employee, dealer or other person to plead that he  
25 believed the person to be twenty-one (21) years old or over.

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

