

By: Representative Compretta

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1597

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 63-3-7 AND 63-3-415, MISSISSIPPI
 2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO
 3 CHARGE A FEE FOR PREPARING AND PROVIDING BOOKLETS CONTAINING THE
 4 RULES OF THE ROAD AND FURNISHING COPIES OF THE STATEWIDE UNIFORM
 5 TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORT TO OTHER AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS; TO
 6 PROHIBIT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OR ANY OTHER DEPARTMENT
 7 OR AGENCY FROM CHARGING A FEE FOR SUCH BOOKLETS OR REPORTS TO A
 8 MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC; TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
 9 TO COMPILE THE RULES OF THE ROAD AND STATEWIDE UNIFORM TRAFFIC
 10 ACCIDENT REPORT IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT AND TO MAKE SUCH RULES AND
 11 REPORTS ACCESSIBLE WITHOUT COST; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 14 amended as follows:

15 63-3-7. The commissioner of public safety is hereby
 16 authorized and directed to compile in a condensed form the rules
 17 of the road as set out by this chapter and have sufficient copies
 18 printed in pocket size booklet form. The booklets shall be made
 19 available to the various law enforcement departments, other
 20 agencies and members of the public. The Department of Public
 21 Safety may charge another department or agency an amount not
 22 exceeding the actual costs incurred by the department in
 23 compiling, printing and distributing the booklets; however, no
 24 charge may be made by the Department of Public Safety or any other
 25 department or agency for distribution of the booklets to the
 26 public. The Department of Public Safety also may compile a
 27 condensed form of the rules of the road in electronic format,
 28 which shall be accessible by law enforcement departments, other
 29 agencies and the public without charge.

30 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-3-415, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
 31 amended as follows:



32 63-3-415. (1) The department shall prepare and
33 furnish * * * "statewide uniform traffic accident report" forms to
34 other agencies, municipal police departments, county sheriffs and
35 other suitable law enforcement agencies or individuals. The
36 department may charge another agency or department an amount not
37 exceeding the actual costs incurred by the department in preparing
38 and furnishing the forms; however, no charge may be made by the
39 Department of Public Safety or any other department or agency for
40 distribution of the forms to the public. The Department of Public
41 Safety also may make such forms available in electronic format,
42 which shall be accessible by law enforcement departments, other
43 agencies and the public without charge.

44 (2) Every accident report required by Section 63-3-411 from
45 a law enforcement officer or individual shall be made on the
46 statewide uniform traffic accident report form provided by the
47 department.

48 (3) In addition to the information required on the accident
49 report forms provided for herein, the department shall include a
50 place on such report forms for the phone numbers of the parties
51 involved in the accident and any witnesses to such accident.

52 (4) "Statewide uniform accident report" forms shall not have
53 printed upon them the name of any elected state official.

54 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
55 and after July 1, 2002.

