

By: Senator(s) Williamson

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2064

1 AN ACT MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO KNOWINGLY SELL,
2 BARTER, EXCHANGE, DELIVER OR GIVE AWAY A BIDI CIGARETTE TO ANOTHER
3 PERSON; TO DEFINE THE TERM "BIDI CIGARETTE"; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** No person shall knowingly sell, barter, exchange,
7 deliver or give away a bidi cigarette to another person, nor shall
8 a person cause or permit or procure a bidi cigarette to be sold,
9 bartered, exchanged, delivered or given away to another person.

10 Any person who knowingly violates or knowingly causes the
11 violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor for
12 which the offender may be fined an amount as follows:

13 (a) For a first offense, not less than One Hundred
14 Dollars (\$100.00) and not more than Five Hundred Dollars
15 (\$500.00);

16 (b) For a second offense within a two-year period, not
17 less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and not more than
18 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00);

19 (c) For a third or subsequent offense within a two-year
20 period, not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and not more
21 than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

22 For purposes of this section, the term "bidi cigarette" means
23 a product that contains tobacco that is wrapped in temburni leaf
24 (diospyros melanoxylon) or tendu leaf (diospyros exculpra) or that
25 is wrapped in another material identified by rules of the State
26 Department of Health that is similar in appearance or
27 characteristics to the temburni or tendu leaf.



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

