

By: Senator(s) Dearing

To: Highways and  
Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2403  
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-23-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REVISE THE SIZE RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON CERTAIN SIGNS; AND FOR  
3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-23-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 49-23-9. All signs as specified in Section 49-23-5, \* \* \*

8 (d) and (e) erected or maintained in business areas shall comply  
9 with the following standards which are consistent with customary  
10 use in the outdoor advertising business in Mississippi:

11 (1) (a) For signs erected prior to the effective date  
12 of the act, the maximum size of any outdoor sign or other  
13 advertising device shall be one thousand two hundred (1,200)  
14 square feet;

15 (b) For sign structures erected on or after the  
16 effective date of this act, the maximum area for any one (1) sign  
17 face shall be six hundred seventy-two (672) square feet, the  
18 maximum height shall be fourteen (14) feet and the maximum length  
19 shall be forty-eight (48) feet, inclusive of any border and trim  
20 on the sign face, but excluding any embellishment on, and cut-out  
21 extension of, the sign face, the base or apron, supports and other  
22 structural members. The height of any sign structure shall not  
23 exceed forty (40) feet. Any embellishment on or cut-out extension  
24 of any sign face shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the  
25 square footage of such sign face.



26           (2) The area of any sign face shall be measured by the  
27 smallest square, rectangle, triangle or circle or combination  
28 thereof which will encompass the entire sign.

29           (3) Sign structures erected on or after the effective  
30 date of this act, may contain one (1) or two (2) signs per face  
31 and may use only a side-by-side, back-to-back or V-type  
32 configuration and no other; provided, however, that if two (2)  
33 signs are used facing the same direction, the aggregate total area  
34 shall not exceed six hundred seventy-two (672) square feet.

35           (4) All illuminated outdoor signs or other advertising  
36 devices shall be so illuminated as to adhere to the customary  
37 practices of the industry in Mississippi at the time of passage of  
38 Sections 49-23-1 through 49-23-29. \* \* \* No lighting devices  
39 shall be used which in any way imitate any traffic control device,  
40 railroad sign or signal, or highway directional signs.

41           (5) All outdoor signs and other advertising devices  
42 located within one-half (1/2) mile of an intersection of two (2)  
43 or more primary highways, or a primary highway and the Great River  
44 Road, or an interchange on the interstate system shall be erected  
45 and/or maintained with a minimum spacing between structures of two  
46 hundred fifty (250) feet, unless separated by another commercial  
47 building or structure, other than outdoor advertising, in which  
48 case outdoor advertising may be permitted on one (1) or more sides  
49 of building or buildings.

50           (6) No two (2) signs shall be spaced less than three  
51 hundred fifty (350) feet apart, except as to signs in existence on  
52 October 22, 1965, which shall not be removed by Sections 49-23-1  
53 through 49-23-29. However, this spacing limitation shall not  
54 apply to areas within incorporated cities, towns, villages and in  
55 areas zoned industrial or commercial.

56           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
57 and after its passage.

