

By: Senator(s) Dearing

To: Highways and
Transportation

SENATE BILL NO. 2403
(As Sent to Governor)

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 July 1, 2003.

