

By: Representative McBride

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 454

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-41-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE A CIVIL PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS
3 LAW; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-41-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 25-41-15. The chancery courts of this state shall have the
8 authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter upon
9 application of any citizen of the state, and shall have the
10 authority to issue injunctions or writs of mandamus to accomplish
11 that purpose. If a court finds that a public body has willfully
12 and knowingly violated the provisions of this chapter, the
13 individual members of that public body shall be liable civilly in
14 a sum not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), plus all
15 reasonable expenses incurred by such person or persons bringing
16 the lawsuit.

17 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
18 and after July 1, 2003.

