

By: Representatives Whittington, McBride,
Brown, Watson, Barnett (116th), Eads,
Fredericks, Mayo

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 978

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 93-21-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT A PROTECTIVE ORDER IN A DOMESTIC ABUSE CASE
3 REMAINS EFFECTIVE UNTIL IT IS TERMINATED OR MODIFIED BY ACTION OF
4 THE COURT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE COURT SHALL CONDUCT A HEARING
5 BEFORE AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION OR TERMINATION OF A PROTECTIVE
6 ORDER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 93-21-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 93-21-17. (1) The granting of any relief authorized under
11 this chapter shall not preclude any other relief provided by law.

12 (2) Any protective order or approved consent agreement shall
13 be for a fixed period of time not to exceed three (3) years. The
14 court may amend its order or agreement at any time upon subsequent
15 petition filed by either party. If the petitioner desires to
16 modify or terminate a protective order before the time fixed in
17 the order, then the court shall conduct a hearing before
18 authorizing such modification or termination. A protective order
19 issued under the provisions of this chapter remains effective and
20 enforceable until it is terminated under its provisions or until
21 it is modified or terminated earlier by action of the court upon
22 the written request of the original petitioner for relief.

23 (3) No order or agreement under this chapter shall in any
24 manner affect title to any real property.

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

