

By: Representative Holland

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1183

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-23-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE SIZE RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON CERTAIN SIGNS USED IN THE
3 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING BUSINESS; AND FOR 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 * * *

8 49-23-9. All signs as specified in Section 49-23-5(d) and
9 (e) erected or maintained in business areas shall comply with the
10 following standards which are consistent with customary use in the
11 outdoor advertising business in Mississippi:

12 (1) (a) For signs erected prior to July 1, 2003, the
13 maximum size of any outdoor sign or other advertising device shall
14 be one thousand two hundred (1,200) square feet;

15 (b) For sign structures erected on or after July 1,
16 2003, the maximum area for any one (1) sign face shall be six
17 hundred seventy-two (672) square feet, the maximum height shall be
18 fourteen (14) feet and the maximum length shall be forty-eight
19 (48) feet, inclusive of any border and trim on the sign face, but
20 excluding any embellishment on, and cut-out extension of, the sign
21 face, the base or apron, supports and other structural
22 members. * * * Any embellishment on or cut-out extension of any
23 sign face shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the square
24 footage of such sign face.

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



28 (3) Sign structures erected on or after July 1, 2003, may
29 contain one (1) or two (2) signs per face and may use only a
30 side-by-side, back-to-back or V-type configuration and no other;
31 provided, however, that if two (2) signs are used facing the same
32 direction, the aggregate total area shall not exceed six hundred
33 seventy-two (672) square feet.

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

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

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

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

