

By: Senator(s) Furniss

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2241

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT DECEMBER 10TH OF EACH YEAR, BEING THE DATE
3 MISSISSIPPI WAS ADMITTED INTO THE UNION, SHALL BE A LEGAL STATE
4 HOLIDAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 3-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
9 of this section, the following are declared to be legal holidays,
10 viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the third Monday
11 of January (Robert E. Lee's Birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King,
12 Jr.'s Birthday); the third Monday of February (Washington's
13 Birthday); the last Monday of April (Confederate Memorial Day);
14 the last Monday of May (National Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis'
15 Birthday); the fourth day of July (Independence Day); the first
16 Monday of September (Labor Day); the eleventh day of November
17 (Armistice or Veterans' Day); the day fixed by proclamation by the
18 Governor of Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be
19 fixed to correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the
20 United States (Thanksgiving Day); the tenth day of December
21 (Mississippi Day: date Mississippi was admitted into the United
22 States of America); and the twenty-fifth day of December
23 (Christmas Day). In the event any holiday hereinbefore declared
24 legal shall fall on Sunday, then the next following day shall be a
25 legal holiday.

26 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
27 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
28 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s



29 Birthday), the governing authorities of any municipality or county
30 may declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or
31 any one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal holiday.

32 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
33 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
34 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
35 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
36 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
37 holiday.

38 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando deSoto Day in
39 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando deSoto, who
40 led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by Europeans
41 into the wilds of North America and the State of Mississippi, and
42 in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's 187-day journey
43 from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's eastern boundary,
44 westward to the place of discovery of the Mississippi River on May
45 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of commemoration, recognition
46 and observation of Hernando deSoto and European exploration and
47 shall not be recognized as a legal holiday.

48 (5) Insofar as possible, Armistice Day shall be observed by
49 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
50 Mississippi at the eleventh hour in the morning of the eleventh
51 day of the eleventh month of the year.

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

