MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE   REGULAR SESSION 2003

By: Senator(s) Jackson   To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2246

1   AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE GATHERING OF MASKED INDIVIDUALS IN
2   PUBLIC WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS; TO PROVIDE CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR
3   VIOLATION OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5   **SECTION 1.** (1) A person is guilty of disorderly conduct

6   when he (a) being masked or in any manner disguised by unusual or

7   unnatural attire or facial alteration, loiters, remains or

8   congregates in a public place with other persons so masked or

9   disguised, or (b) knowingly permits or aids persons so masked or

10 disguised to congregate in a public place; except that such

11 conduct is not unlawful when it occurs in connection with a

12 masquerade party or like entertainment, if, when such

13 entertainment is held in a municipality which has promulgated

14 regulations in connection with such entertainment, permission is

15 first obtained from the police or other appropriate local

16 governmental authorities.

17   (2) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (1)

18 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof,

19 shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars

20 ($500.00) or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six

21 (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

22   (3) If any person alone or in concert with others violates

23 subsection (1) under such circumstances or in such a manner as to

24 evince a willful and wanton disregard for the life or safety of

25 another and if as a result thereof another person or persons are

26 injured, maimed or killed, the person or persons so violating

27 subsection (1) shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction

28 thereof, such person or persons shall be imprisoned in the State

29 Penitentiary not longer than five (5) years or be fined not more

30 than Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00), or both such fine and

31 imprisonment.

32   **SECTION 2**. This act shall take effect and be in force from

33 and after July 1, 2003.