

By: Senator(s) Williamson, Dawkins

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2532

1 AN ACT MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO KNOWINGLY SELL,  
2 BARTER, EXCHANGE, DELIVER OR GIVE AWAY A BIDI CIGARETTE TO ANOTHER  
3 PERSON; TO DEFINE THE TERM "BIDI CIGARETTE"; AND FOR RELATED  
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** No person shall knowingly sell, barter, exchange,  
7 deliver or give away a bidi cigarette to another person, nor shall  
8 a person cause or permit or procure a bidi cigarette to be sold,  
9 bartered, exchanged, delivered or given away to another person.

10 Any person who knowingly violates or knowingly causes the  
11 violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor for  
12 which the offender may be fined an amount as follows:

13 (a) For a first offense, not less than One Hundred  
14 Dollars (\$100.00) and not more than Five Hundred Dollars  
15 (\$500.00);

16 (b) For a second offense within a two-year period, not  
17 less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and not more than  
18 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00);

19 (c) For a third or subsequent offense within a two-year  
20 period, not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and not more  
21 than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

22 For purposes of this section, the term "bidi cigarette" means  
23 a product that contains tobacco that is wrapped in temburni leaf  
24 (diospyros melanoxylon) or tendu leaf (diospyros exculpra) or that  
25 is wrapped in another material identified by rules of the State  
26 Department of Health that is similar in appearance or  
27 characteristics to the temburni or tendu leaf.



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

