

By: Senator(s) Hamilton, White

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2597  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE GARY FUNCHESS ACT; TO PROHIBIT FOCUSING  
2 OF A LASER BEAM WHEN DIRECTED AT AN ON-DUTY LAW ENFORCEMENT  
3 OFFICER, FIRE FIGHTER OR ANY EMERGENCY PERSONNEL; TO ENACT  
4 PENALTIES THEREFOR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
7 Gary Funchess Act.

8 **SECTION 2.** (1) It shall be unlawful for a person  
9 intentionally and without legal justification to focus, point or  
10 aim a laser beam directly or indirectly at a law enforcement  
11 officer, fire fighter or any emergency personnel who is in uniform  
12 and engaged in the performance of official duty in such a manner  
13 as to harass, annoy or injure such law enforcement officer, fire  
14 fighter or emergency personnel.

15 (2) A person who violates this section shall be guilty of a  
16 misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than One  
17 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

18 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
19 and after its passage.

