

By: Representative Stevens

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 605

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-11-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REQUIRE ALL HOTELS OR LODGING HOUSES TO HAVE MISSISSIPPI FIRE  
3 PREVENTION CODE-APPROVED ELECTRIC FIRE DETECTORS ON EACH FLOOR; TO  
4 AMEND SECTION 45-11-49, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE  
5 PENALTIES FOR FAILURE OF LESSEES AND KEEPERS OF HOTELS OR LODGING  
6 HOUSES TO PROVIDE CERTAIN FIRE ALARMS AND ESCAPE APPLIANCES; TO  
7 REPEAL SECTION 45-11-31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH REQUIRES  
8 PROPRIETORS OR KEEPERS OF ALL HOTELS OR PUBLIC LODGING HOUSES TO  
9 PROVIDE A LARGE FIRE ALARM BELL OR GONG NEAR THE OFFICE; AND FOR  
10 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 SECTION 1. Section 45-11-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
13 amended as follows:

14 45-11-29. All hotels or lodging houses \* \* \* shall be  
15 provided with a Mississippi Fire Prevention Code-approved electric  
16 fire detector with a detector \* \* \* on each floor \* \* \*.

17 SECTION 2. Section 45-11-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
18 amended as follows:

19 45-11-49. Every owner, lessee, keeper, or proprietor of a  
20 hotel or a lodging house who shall, when the same is prescribed by  
21 law to be done, fail, neglect or refuse:

22 (a) To provide for each room a rope or rope ladder, or  
23 other like appliance; or

24 (b) To give notice calling attention to such rope or  
25 rope ladder or appliance, and giving directions for its use; or

26 (c) To provide iron balconies with iron stairs; or

27 (d) To provide a hand or side rail to each stairway; or

28 (e) To \* \* \* provide a Mississippi Fire Prevention  
29 Code-approved electric fire detector; or

30 \* \* \*

31           (f) To give alarm and awaken all guests and inmates of  
32 his house in case of fire therein or in close proximity thereto;  
33 or

34           (g) To do everything in case of fire in his power to  
35 rescue the guests or inmates of his house; or

36           (h) To do anything required by law to be done under the  
37 provisions of Sections 45-11-21 through 45-11-55;  
38 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction, shall be  
39 punished by imprisonment in the county jail not less than ninety  
40 (90) days nor more than six (6) months, or fined not less than One  
41 Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars  
42 (\$1,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment.

43           **SECTION 3.** Section 45-11-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, which  
44 requires keepers of all hotels and public lodging houses to  
45 provide a large fire alarm bell or gong near the office, is  
46 repealed.

47           **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
48 and after July 1, 2004.