

By: Senator(s) Nunnelee

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2437

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-29-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
3 NOTIFY EVERY DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN THE STATE OF THE NAMES AND
4 ADDRESSES OF ALL PERSONS LISTED ON BIRTH CERTIFICATES OF
5 ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-29-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 97-29-11. (1) If any person, who shall have previously
10 become the natural parent of an illegitimate child within or
11 without this state by coition within or without this state, shall
12 again become the natural parent of an illegitimate child born
13 within this state, he or she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and,
14 upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment in the
15 county jail for not less than thirty (30) days nor more than
16 ninety (90) days or by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty
17 Dollars (\$250.00), or both. A subsequent conviction hereunder
18 shall be punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for not
19 less than three (3) months nor more than six (6) months or by a
20 fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both.
21 Provided, however, that for the purpose of this section, multiple
22 births shall be construed to be the birth of one (1) child.

23 (2) The circuit court of the county in which said
24 illegitimate child is born shall have jurisdiction of any action
25 brought under this section. No male person shall be convicted
26 solely on the uncorroborated testimony of the female person giving
27 birth to the child.

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29 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
30 and after July 1, 2004.