

By: Senator(s) White

To: Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2303

1 AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE THE CRIME OF UNLAWFUL DESTRUCTION OF ANY
2 CONFEDERATE HISTORIC STRUCTURE; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION
3 OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, not
6 being the owner thereof and without lawful authority, to willfully
7 injure, disfigure, remove or destroy any Confederate historic
8 structure, Confederate monument, Confederate marker or Confederate
9 artifact.

10 (2) Any person violating any of the provisions of this
11 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction,
12 shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars
13 (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by
14 imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days, or by both such
15 fine and imprisonment. Each day of continued violation of any
16 provision of this section shall constitute a distinct and separate
17 offense for which the offender may be punished.

18 (3) The Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of
19 Archives and History, at its discretion, may grant a "finder's
20 fee," not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), upon the
21 arrest and conviction of any person in violation of this section.

22 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
23 and after July 1, 2005.