

By: Representatives Hines, Buck, Evans,
Fredericks, Whittington

To: Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 1286

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 DESIGNATE DECEMBER 1 AS "ROSA PARKS DAY"; TO PROVIDE THAT THIS DAY
3 SHALL NOT BE A LEGAL HOLIDAY, BUT SHALL BE A DAY OF RECOGNITION
4 AND APPRECIATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 3-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
9 of this section, the following are declared to be legal holidays,
10 viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the third Monday
11 of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King,
12 Jr.'s birthday); the third Monday of February (Washington's
13 birthday); the last Monday of April (Confederate Memorial Day);
14 the last Monday of May (National Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis'
15 birthday); the fourth day of July (Independence Day); the first
16 Monday of September (Labor Day); the eleventh day of November
17 (Armistice or Veterans' Day); the day fixed by proclamation by the
18 Governor of Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be
19 fixed to correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the
20 United States (Thanksgiving Day); and the twenty-fifth day of
21 December (Christmas Day). In the event any holiday hereinbefore
22 declared legal shall fall on Sunday, then the next following day
23 shall be a legal holiday.

24 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
25 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
26 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
27 birthday), the governing authorities of any municipality or county

28 may declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or
29 any one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal holiday.

30 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
31 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
32 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
33 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
34 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
35 holiday.

36 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando De Soto Day in
37 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando De Soto,
38 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
39 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
40 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
41 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
42 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
43 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
44 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando De Soto and
45 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
46 holiday.

47 (5) Insofar as possible, Armistice Day shall be observed by
48 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
49 Mississippi at the eleventh hour in the morning of the eleventh
50 day of the eleventh month of the year.

51 (6) December 1 is declared to be Rosa Parks Day in honor of
52 Rosa Parks, who helped usher in the modern Civil Rights Movement
53 on a day in 1955 by refusing to give up her seat on a bus in
54 Montgomery, Alabama. This day shall be a day of recognition and
55 observation and shall not be recognized as a legal holiday.

56 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
57 and after July 1, 2006.