By: Representatives Wooten, Clark, Bailey, Broomfield, Burnett, Clarke, Ellis, Evans (70th), Hines, Johnson, Jones (82nd), Perkins, Robinson, Scott, Straughter

To: Banking and Financial Services

## HOUSE BILL NO. 780

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 75-67-519, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROHIBIT CHECK CASHERS FROM CASHING A DELAYED DEPOSIT CHECK FOR 3 ANY PERSON WHO HAS AN OUTSTANDING DELAYED DEPOSIT CHECK WITH ANOTHER CHECK CASHER THAT HAS NOT BEEN REPAID IN FULL; TO DIRECT 5 THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 6 DATABASE IN WHICH CHECK CASHERS MUST RECORD EACH DELAYED DEPOSIT TRANSACTION IN ORDER TO PREVENT VIOLATIONS OF THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT 7 8 THAT MAY BE OUTSTANDING; TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER TO CHARGE A 9 FEE TO CHECK CASHERS AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE DATABASE SYSTEM; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT CHECK CASHERS MAY CHARGE 10 FOR CASHING A DELAYED DEPOSIT CHECK SHALL NOT EXCEED AN ANNUAL 11 PERCENTAGE RATE OF 36% PER ANNUM ON THE AMOUNT OF THE PRINCIPAL 12 AMOUNT THAT REMAINS UNPAID; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 13

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 15 **SECTION 1.** Section 75-67-519, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 16 amended as follows:
- 75-67-519. (1) A licensee may defer the deposit of a personal check cashed for a customer for up to thirty (30) days under the provisions of this section.
- 20 (2) The face amount of any delayed deposit check cashed
  21 under the provisions of this section shall not exceed Four Hundred
- 22 Dollars (\$400.00). Each customer is limited to a maximum amount
- 23 of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) at any time. A licensee shall
- 24 not cash a delayed deposit check for any person who has an
- 25 outstanding delayed deposit check with another licensee that has
- 26 not been repaid in full. The commissioner shall provide for the
- 27 development of a database in which licensees shall record each
- 28 delayed deposit transaction in order to prevent violations of this
- 29 <u>subsection</u>. The commissioner shall adopt rules governing the
- 30 creation, structure and use of the database, which includes

- 31 charging a fee to licensees as necessary to maintain the database
- 32 system.
- 33 (3) Each delayed deposit check cashed by a licensee shall be
- 34 documented by a written agreement that has been signed by the
- 35 customer and the licensee. The written agreement shall contain a
- 36 statement of the total amount of any fees charged, expressed as a
- 37 dollar amount and as an annual percentage rate. The written
- 38 agreement shall authorize the licensee to defer deposit of the
- 39 personal check until a specific date not later than thirty (30)
- 40 days from the date the check is cashed.
- 41 (4) A licensee shall not directly or indirectly charge any
- 42 fee or other consideration for cashing a delayed deposit check in
- 43 excess of an annual percentage rate of thirty-six percent (36%)
- 44~ per annum on the amount of the check  $\underline{\text{that}}$
- 45 remains unpaid.
- 46 (5) No check cashed under the provisions of this section
- 47 shall be repaid by the proceeds of another check cashed by the
- 48 same licensee or any affiliate of the licensee. A licensee shall
- 49 not renew or otherwise extend any delayed deposit check.
- 50 (6) A licensee shall not offer discount catalog sales or
- 51 other similar inducements as part of a delayed deposit
- 52 transaction.
- 53 (7) A licensee shall not charge a late fee or collection fee
- on any deferred deposit transaction as a result of a returned
- 55 check or the default by the customer in timely payment to the
- 56 licensee. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in
- 57 this section, a licensee may charge a processing fee, not to
- 58 exceed an amount authorized by the commissioner, for a check
- 59 returned for any reason, including, without limitation,
- 60 insufficient funds, closed account or stop payment, if  $\underline{\text{the}}$
- 61 processing fee is authorized in the written agreement signed by
- 62 the customer and licensee. In addition, if a licensee takes legal
- 63 action against a customer to collect the amount of a delayed

- 64 deposit check for which the licensee has not obtained payment and
- 65 obtains a judgment against the customer for the amount of that
- 66 check, the licensee shall also be entitled to any court-awarded
- 67 fees.
- 68 (8) When cashing a delayed deposit check, a licensee may pay
- 69 the customer in the form of the licensee's business check or a
- 70 money order; however, no additional fee may then be charged by the
- 71 licensee for cashing the licensee's business check or money order
- 72 issued to the customer.
- 73 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 74 and after July 1, 2011.