By: Senator(s) Dearing

To: Rules

SENATE BILL NO. 2125

AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTION 1 3-3-51, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO DESIGNATE "I AM MISSISSIPPI" 2 3 AS THE OFFICIAL STATE POEM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section 5 3-3-51, Mississippi Code of 1972: 6 The poem "I Am Mississippi," by Paul Ott, 7 3-3-51. copyrighted 1990, is hereby designated as the State Poem of 8 Mississippi. The poem reads as follows: 9 "I Am Mississippi 10 I'm the land of the Choctaw 11 The hills of Vicksburg, and a cross-cut saw 12 13 Dinner on the ground and muscadine vine I'm a longleaf pine, and Mississippi on my mind 14 15 I'm a banjo pickin' and all night sings Azaleas a'bloomin' in Ocean Springs 16 I'm a Gospel Singer and the old folks at home 17 And I'm the eagle on the top of the Capitol's dome 18 19 I'm coffee in the morning and an ole smoked ham 20 Cathead biscuits and blackberry jam 21 I'm a Mississippi moon, a dusty Delta Dawn, 22 B.B. King, 23 Magnolias in bloom I'm an antebellum home on the Natchez Trace, 24 25 A rusty plow on the old home place 26 I'm Walter Payton catchin' a pass, Elvis Presley, 27 Coon hounds and bird dogs and tea of S. B. No. 2125

11/SS26/R312 PAGE 1

G1/2

28 Sassafras I'm Miss Mississippi and all her glory 29 30 I'm William Faulkner as he writes a story I'm Jimmy Rogers, the Singing Brakeman 31 John C. Stennis, a southern statesman 32 33 I'm the Mississippi River as it rounds the bend I'm Gone with the Wind, ya'll come back again 34 35 Well, I'm everything good you have ever dreamed about Hush yo mouth, I'm Mississippi - I Am the South." 36 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 37 and after July 1, 2011. 38