

By: Representatives Baria, Bailey, Broomfield, Brown (66th), Buck (5th), Buck (72nd), Calhoun, Clark, Ellis, Espy, Evans (43rd), Evans (70th), Flaggs, Gardner, Hines, Holland, Horan, Lane, Moak, Oberhausen, Patterson, Reynolds, Straughter, Stringer, Warren, Whittington, Williams-Barnes, Young, Coleman (65th), Evans (91st), Huddleston (30th), Miles, Steverson

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 36

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT WHEN A PERSON CONVICTED OF A FELONY
 2 CRIME PETITIONS THE GOVERNOR FOR A PARDON, SUCH PERSON SHALL
 3 CONTACT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH
 4 THE FELONY WAS COMMITTED TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING
 5 THE POSSIBLE GRANTING OF THE PARDON; TO REQUIRE NOTICE OF THE
 6 PUBLIC HEARING BE PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER AND THAT SUCH NOTICE BE
 7 PAID BY THE PERSON SEEKING THE PARDON; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) When a person convicted of a felony crime
 10 petitions the Governor for a pardon, the person shall, at the same
 11 time that the person publishes his petition for pardon as required
 12 by Section 124 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, contact
 13 the district attorney and sheriff of the county in which the
 14 felony crime was committed, to schedule a public hearing in that
 15 county regarding the possible granting of a pardon.

16 The public hearing shall occur within thirty (30) days after
 17 the applicant for pardon has published the petition for pardon
 18 which sets forth the reasons why a pardon should be granted in the
 19 applicant's favor.

20 (2) Notice of the public hearing shall be published at the
 21 expense of the applicant for at least five (5) consecutive days
 22 before the date of the public hearing in a newspaper published or
 23 having general circulation in the county in which the felony crime
 24 was committed.

25 (3) After the public hearing, the district attorney shall
 26 forthwith make a brief report of the matters discussed at the
 27 public hearing to the Governor.

28 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
 29 and after July 1, 2012.

