

By: Representative Dixon

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1227

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE CRIME VICTIMS TO EMPLOY PRIVATE ATTORNEYS
2 TO PROSECUTE CRIMINAL CASES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law
5 to the contrary, if the victim of a crime has a conflict of
6 interest with the district attorney prosecuting such case, the
7 victim or the victim's family has the right to employ another
8 attorney to prosecute the case. If the victim or the victim's
9 family so wishes, the district attorney may still prosecute or
10 assist the attorney hired under the provisions of this section
11 with the prosecution of the case.

12 (2) The victim or the victim's family may file a complaint
13 with the Supreme Court or the Attorney General alleging inadequate
14 prosecution and if an investigation reveals that inadequate
15 prosecution has occurred, appropriate sanctions shall be levied
16 against the prosecutor who handled the case.

17 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
18 and after July 1, 2013.

