

By: Senator(s) McDaniel

To: Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2255

1 AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS "KAREN'S LAW"; TO AMEND SECTION  
2 97-3-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE MAXIMUM  
3 IMPRISONMENT FOR PERSONS WHO WERE OVER THE AGE OF 21 WHEN  
4 CONVICTED OF THE HOMICIDE OF A CHILD OF A CERTAIN AGE; AND FOR  
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-3-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 97-3-25. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,  
10 any person convicted of manslaughter shall be fined in a sum not  
11 less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or imprisoned in the  
12 county jail not more than one (1) year, or both, or in the \* \* \*  
13 custody of the Department of Corrections not less than two (2)  
14 years, nor more than twenty (20) years.

15 (2) (a) A person is guilty of child homicide if:

16 (i) The person is found guilty of manslaughter in  
17 circumstances where the killing, although without malice, was  
18 intentional and not accidental; and



19                    (ii) The perpetrator was over the age of  
20 twenty-one (21) years and the victim was a child under the age of  
21 eighteen (18) years.

22                    (b) A person found guilty of child homicide shall be  
23 imprisoned in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a  
24 term not to exceed thirty (30) years.

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

