

By: Senator(s) Brown, Ward

To: Accountability,  
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2653  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY UNION,  
2 LABOR UNION OR AGENCY THEREOF TO SINGLY OR IN CONCERT WITH OTHERS,  
3 TO ENGAGE IN MASS PICKETING OR MASS DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUCH A  
4 MANNER AS TO OBSTRUCT OR UNREASONABLY INTERFERE WITH FREE INGRESS  
5 OR EGRESS OF ANY PERSON TO AND FROM ANY PLACE OF BUSINESS OR A  
6 PRIVATE RESIDENCE; IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY UNION, LABOR UNION  
7 OR AGENCY THEREOF TO OBSTRUCT OR UNREASONABLY INTERFERE WITH FREE  
8 INGRESS OR EGRESS OF ANY PERSON TO AND FROM ANY PLACE OF BUSINESS  
9 OR PRIVATE RESIDENCE; TO AUTHORIZE ANY BUSINESS OR PERSON  
10 SUBJECTED TO SUCH UNLAWFUL ACT TO SEEK INJUNCTIVE RELIEF WITHOUT  
11 THE SHOWING OF IRREPARABLE HARM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** (1) (a) It shall be unlawful for any union,  
14 labor union or agency thereof to singly or in concert with others,  
15 to engage in mass picketing or mass demonstrations in such a  
16 manner as to obstruct or unreasonably interfere with free ingress  
17 or egress of any person to and from any place of business or act  
18 or conduct themselves in any manner that would have the effect as  
19 to obstruct or unreasonably interfere with free use of business  
20 entryways, streets, sidewalks or rights-of-ways adjacent or  
21 contiguous to a business or has or intends the effect of violence  
22 or intimidation, near or contiguous to the business's customers.



23           (b) It shall be unlawful for any union, labor union or  
24 agency, singly or in concert with others, to engage in mass  
25 picketing or mass demonstrations in such a manner as to obstruct  
26 or unreasonably interfere with free ingress or egress of any  
27 person to and from any private residences or act or conduct  
28 themselves in any manner that would have the effect as to obstruct  
29 or unreasonably interfere with free use of residential driveways,  
30 streets, sidewalks or rights-of-ways adjacent to a residence, or  
31 unreasonably interfere with the resident's right to quiet  
32 enjoyment, or where such picketing of a residence has or intends  
33 the effect of violence or intimidation, near contiguous to a  
34 residence.

35           (2) It shall be unlawful for any union, labor union or  
36 agency thereof, singly or in concert with others to use equipment  
37 or any other object to obstruct or unreasonably interfere with  
38 free ingress or egress of any person to and from any private  
39 residences or place of business, or act or conduct themselves in  
40 any manner that would have the effect as to obstruct or  
41 unreasonably interfere with free use of residential driveways,  
42 streets, sidewalks or rights-of-ways adjacent or contiguous  
43 thereto a residence, or as to obstruct or unreasonably interfere  
44 with free use of business entryways, streets, sidewalks or  
45 rights-of-ways adjacent to or contiguous to a business, or  
46 interfere in any other manner described in subsection (1) of this  
47 section.



48           (3) Each individual person guilty of violating this section  
49 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof,  
50 shall be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or  
51 imprisoned in jail not more than six (6) months, or both such fine  
52 and imprisonment.

53           (4) It shall be no defense under state law that an  
54 organization or individual engages in mass picketing or mass  
55 demonstrations to further an objective in the context of a labor  
56 dispute.

57           (5) For purposes of this section, "mass picketing" and "mass  
58 demonstration" means a picket actually prevents an individual from  
59 the reasonable free ingress to and egress from an entrance to any  
60 place of employment or place of residence, either by obstructing  
61 the free ingress and egress with the person's body or by placing a  
62 vehicle or other physical obstruction for such purpose. The  
63 picketing prevents the pursuit of any entrance to a private  
64 residence, lawful work or employment.

65           (6) If, in the context of a labor dispute, an organization  
66 or individual is engaged in mass picketing at a business or  
67 private residence, the business or property owner shall be able to  
68 seek injunctive relief without the showing of irreparable harm.  
69 Upon proper showing, a person or business who is injured or  
70 threatened with injury shall be afforded relief in any court of  
71 competent jurisdiction to enjoin any behavior made unlawful.  
72 Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to alter or change



73 the protections afforded under the federal labor laws, including  
74 the National Labor Relations Act or the Labor Management  
75 Relations.

76 (7) Nothing in this section shall be construed to conflict  
77 with any federal law to the contrary or Section 97-7-63,  
78 Mississippi Code of 1972.

79 (8) Nothing in the provisions of this act shall be construed  
80 to infringe and impede upon any individual's First Amendment  
81 right.

82 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
83 and after July 1, 2014.

