

By: Representative Dixon

To: Judiciary A

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1411

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE SUPREME COURT AND THE COURT OF APPEALS,  
2 AND ALL CIRCUIT, CHANCERY AND COUNTY COURT JUDGES TO  
3 ELECTRONICALLY RECORD PROCEEDINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN THE  
4 COURTROOM FOR ACCESS TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST; TO MAKE CERTAIN  
5 EXCEPTIONS AND CONDITIONS REGARDING THE ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS; TO  
6 REQUIRE THE CLERK OF THE COURT TO STORE THE RECORDINGS FOR AT  
7 LEAST FIVE YEARS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals,  
10 and all circuit, chancery and county court judges shall  
11 electronically record, including both video and audio, proceedings  
12 open to the public in the courtroom for access to the public upon  
13 request:

14 (a) A judge is not required to electronically record  
15 hearings of motions to suppress or to dismiss or of probable cause  
16 or voir dire hearings;

17 (b) During the conduct of a jury trial, a judge shall  
18 not record bench conferences, conferences between counsel, or  
19 conferences between counsel and client; and



20 (c) A judge should require that all equipment is of a  
21 type and positioned and operated in a manner which does not  
22 detract from the dignity and decorum of the proceeding, and only  
23 one stationary, mechanically silent, video or motion picture  
24 camera, and, in addition, one (1) silent still camera should be  
25 permitted in the courtroom at one time.

26 (2) The clerk of the court shall store the electronic  
27 recordings for at least five (5) years before they may be  
28 discarded.

29 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
30 and after July 1, 2017.

