

By: Representative Arnold

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 174

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS THAT
2 EMPLOY PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF CERTAIN NONVIOLENT
3 CRIMES; TO PROVIDE THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT; TO LIMIT THE
4 AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT THAT MAY BE CLAIMED IN A TAXABLE YEAR;
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a
8 taxpayer that employs a person who has been convicted of a felony
9 offense for a nonviolent crime shall be allowed an annual credit
10 against the taxes imposed under this chapter. The credit shall be
11 for an annual amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for five
12 (5) years for each person so employed. However, the tax credit
13 shall not exceed the amount of tax imposed upon the taxpayer for
14 the taxable year reduced by the sum of all other credits allowable
15 to the taxpayer under this chapter, except credit for tax payments
16 made by or on behalf of the taxpayer. In order to be eligible to
17 claim a tax credit for an employee, the taxpayer must employ the
18 employee for at least nine (9) consecutive months during the year
19 for which the credit is claimed and the employee must work an



20 average of at least thirty (30) hours per week for the taxpayer
21 during that time. For the purposes of this subsection, the term
22 "nonviolent crime" means and has the same definition as that term
23 has in Section 47-7-3.

24 (2) The tax credits provided for in this section shall be in
25 addition to any other credit authorized under law.

26 (3) Any taxpayer who is eligible for the credit authorized
27 in this section before January 1, 2021, shall be eligible for the
28 credit authorized in this section, notwithstanding the repeal of
29 this section.

30 (4) This section shall be repealed from and after January 1,
31 2021.

32 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a
33 separate section in Chapter 7, Title 27, Mississippi Code of 1972.

34 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
35 and after January 1, 2018.

