By: Representatives Anderson, Clarke

To: Judiciary B; Workforce Development

HOUSE BILL NO. 597

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 43-33-723, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY BY ANY QUALIFIED SPONSOR, ANY LENDER, OR ANY AGENT OR EMPLOYEE THEREOF IN CONNECTION WITH ANY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT OR ELIGIBLE LOAN UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI HOME CORPORATION ACT; TO AMEND SECTION 97-29-59, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE PRECEDING SECTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 9 **SECTION 1.** Section 43-33-723, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 10 amended as follows:
- 11 43-33-723. No person shall be discriminated against because
- 12 of race, religious principles, color, sex, national origin,
- 13 ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity or handicap by the
- 14 corporation, any qualified sponsor, any lender, or any agent or
- 15 employee thereof in connection with any housing development or
- 16 eligible loan. No person shall be discriminated against because
- 17 of age, nor shall any family be discriminated against because of
- 18 children, in admission to, or continuance of occupancy in, any
- 19 housing project receiving assistance under this act except for any
- 20 housing project constructed under a program restricting occupancy

- 21 to persons sixty-two (62) years of age or older and any directors
- 22 of their immediate households or their occupant surviving spouses.
- 23 This section shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections
- 24 11-62-1 through 11-62-19.
- SECTION 2. Section 97-29-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 26 amended as follows:
- 27 97-29-59. Every person who shall be convicted of the
- 28 detestable and abominable crime against nature committed * * *
- 29 with a beast, shall be punished by imprisonment in the
- 30 Penitentiary for a term of not more than ten (10) years.
- 31 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 32 and after July 1, 2018.

