

By: Representative Bomgar

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1092

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS FROM USING CELL
2 SITE SIMULATOR DEVICES TO INTERCEPT DATA FROM COMMUNICATIONS
3 DEVICES WITHOUT A PROBABLE CAUSE WARRANT; TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS;
4 TO PRESCRIBE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN APPLICATION FOR A WARRANT TO
5 USE A CELL SITE SIMULATOR DEVICE AND THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH A
6 COURT MAY ISSUE A WARRANT AUTHORIZING USE OF THE DEVICE; TO
7 AUTHORIZE THE WARRANTLESS USE OF A CELL SITE SIMULATOR DEVICE IN
8 EMERGENCY SITUATIONS; TO REQUIRE A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY USING A
9 CELL SITE SIMULATOR DEVICE TO TAKE STEPS TO LIMIT OBTAINING
10 UNAUTHORIZED DATA; TO REQUIRE NOTICE TO BE GIVEN TO THE OWNER OF A
11 TARGETED COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE; TO PROVIDE THAT DATA OBTAINED IN
12 VIOLATION OF THIS ACT IS INADMISSIBLE; TO REQUIRE THE ATTORNEY
13 GENERAL TO DEVELOP TRAINING PROTOCOLS ON THE USE OF CELL SITE
14 SIMULATOR DEVICES AND TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THEIR USAGE;
15 TO REQUIRE COURTS TO ANNUALLY SUBMIT DATA RELATING TO THE USE OF
16 CELL SITE SIMULATOR DEVICES TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL; TO AUTHORIZE
17 CIVIL PENALTIES FOR PERSONS WHO ARE THE VICTIMS OF THE UNLAWFUL
18 USE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OF A CELL SITE SIMULATOR DEVICE; TO
19 PROHIBIT PUBLIC AGENCIES AND EMPLOYEES FROM USING LICENSE PLATE
20 SCANNERS ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS; TO CREATE EXCEPTIONS FOR CERTAIN
21 PUBLIC AGENCIES ENGAGED IN PLANNING AND ENFORCEMENT OF HIGHWAY
22 WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS; TO PROHIBIT PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FROM
23 ADMINISTERING ORAL FLUID TESTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING IF
24 AN INDIVIDUAL IS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES; AND
25 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

27 **SECTION 1.** As used in Sections 1 through 12 of this act, the
28 following words and phrases have the meanings ascribed in this
29 section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:



30 (a) "Authorized possessor" means the person in
31 possession of a communications device when that person is the
32 owner of the device or has been authorized to possess the device
33 by the owner of the device.

34 (b) "Adverse result" means:

35 (i) Endangering the life or physical safety of an
36 individual;

37 (ii) Flight from prosecution;

38 (iii) Destruction of or tampering with evidence;

39 (iv) Intimidation of potential witnesses; or

40 (v) Otherwise seriously jeopardizing an
41 investigation.

42 (c) "Cell site simulator device" means a device that
43 transmits or receives radio waves to or from a communications
44 device and that can be used to intercept, collect, access,
45 transfer or forward the data transmitted or received by the
46 communications device or stored on the communications device.

47 "Cell site simulator device" includes an international mobile
48 subscriber identity (IMSI) catcher or other cell phone or
49 telephone surveillance or eavesdropping device that mimics a
50 cellular base station and transmits radio waves that cause cell
51 phones or other communications devices in the area to transmit or
52 receive radio waves, electronic data, location data, information
53 used to calculate location, identifying information,
54 communications content or metadata, or otherwise obtains this



55 information through passive means, such as through the use of a
56 digital analyzer or other passive interception device. "Cell site
57 simulator device" does not include any device used or installed by
58 an electric utility solely to the extent the device is used by
59 that utility to measure electrical usage, to provide services to
60 customers or to operate the electric grid.

61 (d) "Communications device" means any electronic device
62 that transmits signs, signals, writings, images, sounds or data,
63 in whole or in part, by a wire, radio, electromagnetic,
64 photoelectric or photo-optical system.

65 (e) "Data transmitted or received by a communications
66 device" means all dialing, routing, addressing or signaling
67 information, including, but not limited to, the device's unique
68 numeric identifier, channel and cell site codes identifying the
69 device's location as well as the content of any communications.

70 (f) "Electronic communication" means the transfer of
71 signs, signals, writings, images, sounds or data, in whole or in
72 part, by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectric or
73 photo-optical system.

74 (g) "Electronic communications service" means a service
75 that provides to its subscribers or users the ability to send or
76 receive electronic communications, including any service that acts
77 as an intermediary in the transmission of electronic
78 communications or stores electronic communication information.



79 (h) "Law enforcement official" means an employee or
80 agent of a state, county or local law enforcement agency or
81 department, including, but not limited to, prosecutors.

82 (i) "Targeted communications device" means the specific
83 communications device as to which judicial authorization was
84 sought and received, pursuant to Sections 1 through 12 of this
85 act, to use a cell site simulator device to obtain data.

86 (j) "Targeted party" means a person or entity as to
87 which judicial authorization was sought and received, pursuant to
88 Sections 1 through 12 of this act, to obtain data using a cell
89 site simulator device.

90 **SECTION 2.** (1) Subject to the requirements of Sections 1
91 through 12 of this act and all applicable provisions of the United
92 States Constitution and the constitution and laws of the State of
93 Mississippi, no state, county, municipal or other local governing
94 agency, department, authority or other entity, including agents
95 and employees, may use a cell site simulator device to obtain any
96 data transmitted or received by a communications device or stored
97 on a communications device without a warrant based on probable
98 cause and issued pursuant to Sections 1 through 12 of this act.

99 (2) No employee or agent of the state or any county,
100 municipal or other local governing authority, other than a law
101 enforcement official who is trained and authorized specifically to
102 do so pursuant to Sections 1 through 12 of this act, may operate a
103 cell site simulator device.



104 (3) A cell site simulator device may not be used to install
105 monitoring software or applications on a communications device,
106 unless:

107 (a) Authorization to do so is sought and received
108 pursuant to Sections 3 and 4 of this act;

109 (b) All requirements and limitations that apply to cell
110 site simulator devices under Sections 1 through 12 of this act are
111 applied to the installed monitoring software or application,
112 including, but not limited to, restrictions on duration; and

113 (c) The installation and use of the monitoring software
114 or applications conforms with all applicable provisions of the
115 United States Constitution and the constitution and laws of this
116 state, including, but not limited to, Article 7, Chapter 29, Title
117 41, Mississippi Code of 1972.

118 (4) Any use of a cell site simulator device by a law
119 enforcement official or other employee or agent of a state,
120 county, municipal or other local governing authority not
121 authorized by a warrant pursuant to Section 4 of this act or
122 subject to the provisions of Section 5 of this act constitutes a
123 violation of Sections 1 through 12 of this act.

124 (5) This act may not be construed to authorize or allow any
125 surveillance act or operation that otherwise is prohibited by law.

126 **SECTION 3.** (1) An application for a warrant authorizing the
127 use of a cell site simulator device must be made under oath.



128 (2) An application under this section must comply with all
129 applicable laws regarding search warrants in this state and must
130 certify that:

131 (a) There is probable cause to believe that the use of
132 a cell site simulator device will lead to:

133 (i) Obtaining evidence of a crime, contraband,
134 fruits of crime, things criminally possessed, weapons or other
135 things by means of which a crime has been committed, is being
136 committed or is about to be committed; or

137 (ii) The location of a person whom there is
138 probable cause to believe has committed, is committing or is about
139 to commit a crime;

140 (b) The law enforcement applicant will comply with the
141 requirements of Section 6 of this act; and

142 (c) All relevant law enforcement agencies are in
143 compliance with Sections 6 and 9 of this act.

144 (3) An application under this section must identify the law
145 enforcement official making the application, the law enforcement
146 agency or department conducting the investigation, the law
147 enforcement agency in possession of the cell site simulator device
148 to be used, the law enforcement agency that owns the cell site
149 simulator device, and the law enforcement official or officials
150 who will operate it.

151 (4) An application under this section must specify
152 sufficient facts:



153 (a) To demonstrate that alternative methods of
154 investigation and surveillance with less incidental impact on
155 nontargeted parties and devices are inadequate to achieve the same
156 purposes; and

157 (b) For a court to make the findings necessary under
158 Section 4 of this act.

159 (5) An application under this section must include:

160 (a) The technological nature and capabilities of the
161 cell site simulator device to be used, as well as the manner of
162 its operation, methods of deployment and the techniques to be
163 employed in the instant case;

164 (b) The likely impact on privacy and communications
165 services of nontargeted parties of the proposed deployment,
166 including the geographical areas in which the cell site simulator
167 device will be deployed, the estimated number of nontargeted
168 parties likely to be impacted by the proposed deployment and
169 whether signals will be sent into private spaces;

170 (c) The applying agency's or department's procedures
171 for compliance with the requirements of Section 6 of this act;

172 (d) The qualifications, training and agency affiliation
173 of the persons who will operate the cell site simulator device;
174 and

175 (e) All information required to be included in the
176 warrant under subsection (4) of Section 4 of this act.



177 **SECTION 4.** (1) A court may authorize the use of a cell site
178 simulator device only upon receipt of a valid application pursuant
179 to Section 3. If the application seeks authority to use a cell
180 site simulator device to intercept the contents of communications,
181 authorization may be granted only in compliance with the
182 procedural and substantive limitations on wiretaps contained in
183 state and federal law, and consistent with constitutional limits
184 on wiretapping.

185 (2) A court may not authorize the use of a cell site
186 simulator device for any purpose other than obtaining data.

187 (3) A warrant under this section must comply with all
188 applicable laws regarding search warrants in this state and may
189 only be issued if the court finds that:

190 (a) There is probable cause to believe that the use of
191 a cell site simulator device will lead to:

192 (i) Obtaining evidence of a crime, contraband,
193 fruits of crime, things criminally possessed, weapons or other
194 things by means of which a crime has been committed, is being
195 committed or is about to be committed; or

196 (ii) The location of a person whom there is
197 probable cause to believe has committed, is committing or is about
198 to commit a crime; and

199 (b) Alternative methods of investigation and
200 surveillance with less incidental impact on nontargeted parties
201 and devices are inadequate to achieve the same purposes.



202 (4) A warrant under this section authorizing the use of a
203 cell site simulator device must specify:

204 (a) The manner in which the cell site simulator device
205 will be used, including whether it will be deployed aurally or
206 through another method;

207 (b) The identities, if known, of:

208 (i) The person who owns the targeted
209 communications device;

210 (ii) The person who possesses the targeted
211 communications device; and

212 (iii) The person who is the subject of the
213 criminal investigation;

214 (c) The telephone number, electronic serial number or
215 other unique identifier of the targeted communications device,
216 except when such information is unknown and the cell site
217 simulator device is authorized for the purpose of identifying the
218 targeted communications device;

219 (d) If known, the physical location of the targeted
220 communications device;

221 (e) The type of communications device being targeted
222 and the communications protocols being used by the targeted
223 communications device;

224 (f) The geographic area where the cell site simulator
225 device will be operated and where any signals emitted by the
226 device will extend;



227 (g) All specific types of data which there is probable
228 cause to obtain from or about the targeted communications device
229 through use of a cell site simulator device including, but not
230 limited to, device electronic serial numbers, communications
231 metadata, communications content or geolocation information;

232 (h) Whether or not the cell site simulator device
233 incidentally will obtain data from any nontargeted communications
234 devices, and if so, what types of data will be obtained and a
235 reasonable estimate of the number of communications devices from
236 which such data will be obtained;

237 (i) Whether any disruptions to access or use of an
238 electronic communications service may be caused by use of the cell
239 site simulator device, including to nontargeted parties or
240 communications devices, and a reasonable estimate of the number of
241 communications devices that may experience such disruption; and

242 (j) The offense to which the information likely to be
243 obtained relates.

244 (5) Unless the court finds that doing so is necessary and
245 consistent with the requirements of Section 6, a cell site
246 simulator device may not be deployed using aircraft.

247 (6) A warrant issued under this section may not authorize
248 the use of a cell site simulator device for a period exceeding
249 fourteen (14) days, and the warrant will terminate immediately
250 when the data authorized in the warrant is obtained.



251 (7) An extension of a warrant may be granted, for a period
252 not exceeding fourteen (14) days, only upon a new application
253 under Section 3 and a new warrant under this section. An
254 application for an extension must include a certification of good
255 faith belief that the information sought is more likely to be
256 obtained under the extension period than under any previous period
257 of authorization, including any prior extensions.

258 (8) A court may not authorize the access, use, transmission,
259 copying, disclosure or retention of any data obtained by a cell
260 site simulator device which was neither specifically authorized to
261 be obtained by a warrant under this section at the time the data
262 was obtained nor validly obtained pursuant to Section 5 and
263 specifically authorized by a timely warrant pursuant to subsection
264 (2) of Section 5.

265 (9) This act may not be construed to authorize the use of a
266 cell site simulator device to obtain data regarding the targeted
267 communications device from any device not targeted in the warrant
268 pursuant to this section.

269 (10) The foreseeability of the incidental acquisition of
270 data not specifically authorized to be obtained may not be
271 construed as authorization to obtain, access, use, transmit, copy,
272 disclose or retain the information.

273 (11) A warrant issued pursuant to this section may be sealed
274 upon a showing of need, but for not more than one hundred eighty
275 (180) days, with any further extensions to be granted upon a



276 certification that an investigation remains active or a showing of
277 exceptional circumstances.

278 SECTION 5. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of
279 Sections 1 through 12 of this act, a law enforcement official
280 specially designated by the Attorney General, or a law enforcement
281 official specially designated by the principal prosecuting
282 attorney of the jurisdiction, may use a cell site simulator device
283 to obtain data if the law enforcement official and the Attorney
284 General or principal prosecuting attorney reasonably determine
285 that:

286 (a) An emergency situation requiring the use of a cell
287 site simulator device exists;

288 (b) The emergency situation requires use of a cell site
289 simulator device before a warrant authorizing such use can, with
290 due diligence, be sought and issued;

291 (c) A judicially recognized exception to warrant
292 requirements applies;

293 (d) Alternative methods of investigation and
294 surveillance with less incidental impact on nontargeted parties
295 and devices are inadequate to achieve the same purposes; and

296 (e) There are grounds upon which a warrant could be
297 sought pursuant to Section 3 and issued pursuant to Section 4.

298 (2) The law enforcement official using a cell site simulator
299 device under this section must apply for and obtain a warrant
300 under Sections 3 and 4 within forty-eight (48) hours of beginning



301 to use the device. A warrant pursuant to this section must
302 contain, in addition to the requirements of Section 4, findings
303 that the requisite determinations were made by the appropriate
304 persons under subsection (1) and were reasonable at the time.

305 (3) In the absence of a warrant under Section 4, any use of
306 a cell site simulator device under this section must terminate
307 immediately when:

308 (a) The data sought is obtained;

309 (b) The application under Section 3 is denied; or

310 (c) Forty-eight (48) hours have elapsed since the
311 commencement of the cell site simulator device's use.

312 (4) The knowing use of a cell site simulator device pursuant
313 to this section without submitting an application for an
314 authorizing warrant within forty-eight (48) hours of the
315 commencement of the device's use constitutes a violation of this
316 act.

317 (5) A cell site simulator device may not be used pursuant to
318 this section on the basis of an outstanding warrant for the search
319 or seizure of any persons, places or things.

320 **SECTION 6.** (1) With respect to nontargeted parties and
321 devices, a law enforcement agency or department using a cell site
322 simulator device must take all reasonable steps to minimize:

323 (a) The number of adversely affected parties and
324 devices;



325 (b) The degree of the adverse impacts, including, but
326 not limited to, adverse impacts on privacy, communications
327 services and device functionality; and

328 (c) The data obtained.

329 (2) With respect to targeted parties and devices, a law
330 enforcement agency or department using a cell site simulator
331 device must take all reasonable steps to minimize the unauthorized
332 data obtained.

333 (3) (a) If the cell site simulator device is used to
334 locate, track or obtain data from a communications device, all
335 data obtained without authorization must be deleted permanently as
336 soon as reasonably possible and in no event, later than the end of
337 the day on which it was obtained.

338 (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a),
339 if the cell site simulator device is used to identify an unknown
340 communications device, the data necessary to the identification
341 process but relating to nontarget communications devices must be
342 deleted permanently no later than: the earlier of the end of the
343 day on which the unknown communications device is identified; or
344 seven (7) days after the commencement of the cell site simulator
345 device's use.

346 (c) Any data obtained pursuant to Section 5 which is
347 not specifically authorized by a timely issued warrant pursuant to
348 subsection (2) of this section must be deleted permanently as soon
349 as reasonably possible and in no event, later than the day on



350 which use of a cell site simulator device is required to terminate
351 under subsection (3) of Section 5.

352 (d) Any data obtained by an authorized cell site
353 simulator device must be deleted permanently when the probable
354 cause identified for purposes of subsection (3) (a) of Section 4 no
355 longer exists, except to the extent that retention of that data is
356 justified or required by rules or case law governing disclosure of
357 exculpatory or material evidence to the defense in a criminal
358 case. Any data required to be retained by such rules or case law
359 must be segregated from law enforcement investigative files and
360 may not be accessed for any purpose other than as required by the
361 rules or case law.

362 (4) Data required to be deleted under this section may not
363 be accessed, used, transmitted, copied, disclosed or retained for
364 any purpose before its deletion, except as provided in subsection
365 (3) (d).

366 (5) Knowingly accessing, using, transmitting, copying,
367 disclosing or retaining unauthorized data obtained by a cell site
368 simulator device constitutes a violation of Sections 1 through 12
369 of this act.

370 **SECTION 7.** (1) Unless delayed notice is ordered under
371 subsection (2) of this section, not later than three (3) days
372 after a law enforcement official deploys a cell site simulator
373 device under this act, the law enforcement official, or another
374 law enforcement official acting as an agent of the official, must



375 serve upon or deliver by registered or first-class mail,
376 electronic mail or other reasonable means approved by the court
377 issuing the warrant the following to the authorized possessor of
378 the targeted communications device:

379 (a) A copy of the application and warrant; and

380 (b) Notice that informs the authorized possessor of the
381 targeted communications device:

382 (i) Of the nature of the law enforcement inquiry
383 with reasonable specificity;

384 (ii) That content or data stored or transmitted by
385 the device or location information, or both, was obtained by the
386 law enforcement official, the date on which it was obtained, and
387 whether it has been deleted, including the date of the deletion;

388 (iii) Whether notification of the authorized
389 possessor was delayed pursuant to subsection (2) of this section;
390 and

391 (iv) If applicable, what court approved the
392 subsection (2) application for delayed notification and the reason
393 delayed notification was approved.

394 (2) A law enforcement official applying for use of a cell
395 site simulator device under Section 3 may include in the
396 application a request to delay the notification required under
397 subsection (1) for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days. The
398 court must grant a delay if it determines that notification of the
399 existence of the warrant is likely to have an adverse result.



400 (3) Upon expiration of the period of delay granted under
401 subsection (2), the law enforcement official shall provide the
402 authorized possessor of the targeted communications device with a
403 copy of the subsection (2) application and warrant, together with
404 notice required pursuant to subsection (1).

405 (4) The court, upon application, may grant one or more
406 extensions of delayed notification granted under subsection (2)
407 for an additional ninety (90) days each.

408 **SECTION 8.** (1) Except as proof of a violation of Sections 1
409 through 12 of this act, any data obtained, accessed, used,
410 transmitted, copied, disclosed or retained in violation of this
411 act, or any evidence derived from such data, is inadmissible in
412 any criminal, civil, administrative or other proceeding.

413 (2) Any data obtained pursuant to Sections 1 through 12 of
414 this act or evidence derived from the data may not be received in
415 evidence or otherwise disclosed in any trial, hearing or other
416 proceeding in a court unless each party, not less than ten (10)
417 days before the trial, hearing or proceeding, has been furnished
418 with a copy of the warrant and accompanying application under
419 which the information was obtained. The ten-day period may be
420 waived by the court if the court finds that it was not possible to
421 furnish the party with the above information ten (10) days before
422 the trial, hearing or proceeding and that the party will not be
423 prejudiced by the delay in receiving the information.



424 **SECTION 9.** (1) The Attorney General shall develop training
425 protocols for law enforcement officials involved in the
426 authorization, deployment and technical operation of cell site
427 simulator devices, which protocols must include training on
428 privacy and civil liberties.

429 (2) Law enforcement agencies or departments using cell site
430 simulator devices shall conduct appropriate trainings based on
431 these protocols for all law enforcement officials involved in the
432 authorization, deployment and technical operation of cell site
433 simulator devices.

434 (3) Cell site simulator devices may be operated only by law
435 enforcement officials who have been authorized by their agency or
436 department to operate the technology and who have received the
437 training required under this section.

438 **SECTION 10.** (1) Before March 15 of each calendar year, a
439 court issuing or denying a warrant under Sections 4 or 5 of this
440 act during the preceding calendar year shall report to the
441 Attorney General:

- 442 (a) The number of warrants applied for;
- 443 (b) Separately, the number of applications that were:
- 444 (i) Denied;
- 445 (ii) Modified; and
- 446 (iii) Granted;
- 447 (c) The number of warrants granted whose total
448 duration, including extensions, was:



- 449 (i) Zero (0) to fourteen (14) days;
- 450 (ii) Fifteen (15) to twenty-eight (28) days;
- 451 (iii) Twenty-nine (29) to forty-two (42) days; and
- 452 (iv) Forty-three (43) days or greater.

453 (2) Before March 15 of each calendar year, an agency or
454 department using a cell site simulator device during the preceding
455 calendar year shall report to the Attorney General:

- 456 (a) The number of warrants applied for;
- 457 (b) Separately, the number of applications that were:
 - 458 (i) Denied;
 - 459 (ii) Modified; and
 - 460 (iii) Granted;

461 (c) With respect to each cell site simulator device
462 warrant application or deployment:

- 463 (i) Whether the application was granted, modified
464 or denied;
- 465 (ii) The offenses specified in the warrant
466 application;
- 467 (iii) The purposes for which the cell site
468 simulator device was used or, if the application was denied, the
469 proposed purposes;
- 470 (iv) Whether the initial use of the cell site
471 simulator device was:
 - 472 1. Pursuant to Section 4 of this act;
 - 473 2. Pursuant to Section 5 of this act;



474 3. Unauthorized by this act; or
475 4. The device was never used;
476 (v) The geographic area where the cell site
477 simulator device was used or, if the application was denied, the
478 proposed location;
479 (vi) Whether monitoring software or applications
480 were installed on any communications devices during the cell site
481 simulator devices' use and, if so, whether none, some or all of
482 the devices on which they were installed were targeted
483 communications devices;
484 (vii) The duration of the warrant, including any
485 extensions granted, under which the cell site simulator device was
486 used or, if the application was denied, the proposed duration; and
487 (viii) The number of communications devices from
488 which data was obtained.
489 (3) Information provided to the Attorney General pursuant to
490 subsections (1) and (2) is subject to the Mississippi Public
491 Records Act of 1983.
492 (4) Before July 1 of each year, beginning in 2019, the
493 Attorney General shall submit to the Legislature a full and
494 complete report on the implementation of Sections 1 through 12 of
495 this act. The report must include data from the preceding
496 calendar year concerning the number of applications pursuant to
497 Section 3, the number of times access to content, data or location
498 information was obtained pursuant to Section 5 and the number of



499 warrants granted or denied pursuant to Section 4. The report also
500 must include a summary and analysis of the data required to be
501 filed with the Attorney General under subsections (1) and (2) of
502 this section. A copy of the report required must be made publicly
503 available on the website for the Attorney General. The Attorney
504 General may issue regulations regarding the content and form of
505 the reports required to be filed pursuant to subsections (1) and
506 (2) of this section.

507 **SECTION 11.** (1) (a) A person whose data is obtained,
508 accessed, used, transmitted, copied, disclosed or retained by any
509 knowing violation of this act, or on whose communications device
510 software or applications are installed in violation of subsection
511 (3) of Section 2, may recover, in a civil action, from the person
512 or entity that engaged in the violation such relief as may be
513 appropriate.

514 (b) In a civil action under this subsection,
515 appropriate relief may include:

516 (i) Preliminary and other equitable or declaratory
517 relief as is appropriate;

518 (ii) Damages under paragraph (c) of this
519 subsection; and

520 (iii) Reasonable attorney's fees and other
521 litigation costs.

522 (c) The court may assess, as damages in a civil action
523 under this section, the sum of the actual damages suffered by the



524 plaintiff, but in no case may a person whose data is obtained,
525 accessed, used, transmitted, copied, disclosed or retained by any
526 knowing violation of Sections 1 through 12 of this act, or on
527 whose communications device software or applications are installed
528 in violation of subsection (3) of Section 2, receive less than
529 minimum statutory damages in the amount of One Thousand Dollars
530 (\$1,000.00). If the violation is intentional, the court may
531 assess punitive damages.

532 (2) If a court or the Attorney General determines that a
533 state, county, municipal or other local governing agency,
534 department, authority or other entity, including any agent,
535 employee or law enforcement official, has violated any provision
536 of Sections 1 through 12 of this act and that the circumstances
537 surrounding the violation raise serious questions about whether
538 the violation was intentional, the Attorney General must initiate
539 a proceeding to determine whether disciplinary action is
540 warranted. If the Attorney General determines disciplinary action
541 is not warranted, the reasons for the determination, including a
542 summary of the incident and the reasons for declining disciplinary
543 action, must be included in the next report issued pursuant to
544 subsection (4) of Section 10.

545 **SECTION 12.** The provisions of Sections 1 through 12 of this
546 act are severable. If any part or provision of Sections 1 through
547 12 of this act, or the application of those sections of this act
548 to any person, entity or circumstance, is held invalid, the



549 remainder of Sections 1 through 12 of this act, including the
550 application of such part or provision to other persons, entities
551 or circumstances, is not affected by such that holding and
552 continues to have force and effect.

553 SECTION 13. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection
554 (2), an agency or employee of the state or any subdivision of the
555 state may not use, either directly or indirectly, a license plate
556 scanner on any public highway.

557 (2) (a) The Mississippi Department of Transportation or the
558 transportation department of a county or an incorporated city or
559 town may use a license plate scanner:

560 (i) To collect data for planning. If data is
561 collected under this subparagraph (i), the Department of
562 Transportation or the county, city or town must ensure and
563 maintain the anonymity of the vehicle, the vehicle owner, the
564 driver of the vehicle and any passengers in the vehicle. Data
565 collected under this subparagraph (i) without a search warrant or
566 outside of judicially recognized exceptions to search warrant
567 requirements may not be used to investigate or prosecute an
568 individual or as evidence in court; or

569 (ii) In a regulated parking system, but only to
570 identify a vehicle's location and license plate number to enforce
571 parking restrictions.

572 (b) The Mississippi Department of Transportation may
573 use a device and equipment, including license plate scanners, if



574 necessary, to implement the provisions of Chapter 5, Title 63,
575 Mississippi Code of 1972, if the devices or equipment are used in
576 screening operations associated with:

577 (i) Virtual ports of entry;

578 (ii) Weigh station ramps using automated weigh
579 station screening systems;

580 (iii) Virtual weigh stations using weigh-in-motion
581 technology; or

582 (iv) An automatic vehicle identification system
583 that enables participating transponder-equipped vehicles to be
584 prescreened throughout the nation at designated weigh stations,
585 port-of-entry facilities or agricultural interdiction facilities.

586 (c) Nothing in this section prohibits an agency of the
587 state or any subdivision of the state from using its own vehicles,
588 aircraft or equipment, including a license plate scanner, to
589 track, monitor or otherwise maintain information about the
590 agency's or subdivision's vehicles, aircraft or equipment.

591 (3) A public employee or public officer who violates this
592 section is subject to any applicable penalties provided for by
593 law.

594 (4) As used in this section, the term "license plate
595 scanner" means a device principally designed and primarily used
596 for determining the ownership of a motor vehicle, the mileage or
597 route traveled by a motor vehicle, the location or identity of a
598 motor vehicle, or the identity of a motor vehicle's occupants on



599 the public highways through the use of a camera or other imaging
600 device or any other device, including, but not limited to, a
601 transponder, cellular telephone, global positioning satellite,
602 automated electronic toll collection system, automated license
603 plate recognition system, or radio frequency identification device
604 that by itself or in conjunction with other devices or information
605 can be used to determine the ownership of a motor vehicle or the
606 identity of a motor vehicle's occupants or the mileage, location
607 or route traveled by the motor vehicle.

608 **SECTION 14.** The information collected and stored in any
609 database under Section 13 of this act:

610 (a) Is private, not a public record and not subject to
611 public disclosure;

612 (b) May be accessed by an employee of the state or a
613 political subdivision of the state only for the purpose of
614 providing customer service or for statistical, administrative or
615 legal activities necessary to perform the employee's duties; and

616 (c) May be maintained only for the time minimally
617 necessary, but in no event, more than eighteen (18) months.

618 **SECTION 15.** An agency or employee of the state or any
619 subdivision of the state may not use, either directly or
620 indirectly, oral fluid tests for the purpose of determining
621 whether or not an individual is acting under the influence of
622 controlled substances.



623 **SECTION 16.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
624 and after July 1, 2018.

