

By: Representative Banks

To: Constitution

HOUSE BILL NO. 29

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 DESIGNATE THE FIRST MONDAY OF APRIL AS NATIONAL DAY OF REUNION;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 3-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
8 of this section, the following are declared to be legal
9 holidays * * *:

10 (a) The first day of January, designated as New Year's
11 Day;

12 (b) The third Monday of January, designated as Robert
13 E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday;

14 (c) The third Monday of February, designated as George
15 Washington's birthday;

16 (d) The first Monday of April, designated as National
17 Day of Reunion;



18 (e) The last Monday of April, designated as Confederate
19 Memorial Day;

20 (f) The last Monday of May, designated as both National
21 Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis' birthday;

22 (g) The fourth day of July, designated as Independence
23 Day;

24 (h) The first Monday of September, designated as Labor
25 Day;

26 (i) The eleventh day of November, designated as
27 Armistice or Veterans' Day;

28 (j) The day fixed by proclamation by the Governor of
29 Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to
30 correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the United
31 States, designated as Thanksgiving Day; and

32 (k) The twenty-fifth day of December, designated as
33 Christmas Day.

34 * * * If any legal holiday * * * falls on a Sunday, then the
35 next following day shall be a legal holiday.

36 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
37 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
38 Monday in January, designated as Robert E. Lee's and Dr. Martin
39 Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and the eleventh day of November,
40 designated as Armistice or Veterans' Day, the governing
41 authorities of any municipality or county may declare, by order



42 spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or any one (1) other day
43 during the year, to be a legal holiday.

44 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
45 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
46 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
47 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
48 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
49 holiday.

50 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
51 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
52 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
53 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
54 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
55 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
56 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
57 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
58 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and
59 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
60 holiday.

61 (5) Armistice * * * or Veterans' Day shall be observed by
62 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
63 Mississippi. The superintendent of schools of each public school
64 district is authorized to provide for the appearance of uniformed
65 military personnel, uniformed veterans or the families of fallen
66 military personnel/veterans at such public school exercises in



67 honor of Armistice * * * or Veterans' Day. The superintendent of
68 schools is also authorized to permit the school band and its
69 director(s) at any public school in the district to perform at
70 Armistice * * * or Veterans' Day exercises in the school district
71 upon the request of public officials or veterans associations
72 without loss of any program credit by participating students and
73 without loss of leave by participating school personnel.

74 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
75 and after July 1, 2019.

