

By: Representative Guice

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 73

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-16-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO USE A LICENSE-PLATE READER
3 THAT UTILIZES THE MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE VERIFICATION SYSTEM TO
4 ENFORCE MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-16-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 63-16-5. (1) A law enforcement officer or authorized
10 employee of a law enforcement agency may, during the course of a
11 traffic stop or accident investigation, or when using a
12 license-plate reader that utilizes the verification system, access
13 the verification system established under Section 63-16-3 to
14 verify whether a motor vehicle is covered by a valid motor vehicle
15 liability policy in at least the minimum amounts required under
16 Section 63-15-3(j).

17 (2) The response received from the system supersedes an
18 insurance card produced by a motor vehicle operator, and
19 notwithstanding the display of an insurance card by the operator,



20 the law enforcement officer may issue a complaint and notice to
21 appear to the operator for a violation of the Mississippi Motor
22 Vehicle Safety-Responsibility Law. A law enforcement officer may
23 exercise discretion in issuing a citation during the first sixty
24 (60) days after proof of temporary insurance is issued by an
25 insurance company, if the verification system shows that the
26 insured's policy is expired and the operator provides proof of
27 insurance with a new insurance company or a new insurance card.

28 (3) Except when using a license-plate reader that utilizes
29 the verification system or upon reasonable cause to believe that a
30 driver has violated another traffic regulation or that the
31 driver's motor vehicle is unsafe or not equipped as required by
32 law, a law enforcement officer may not use the verification system
33 to stop a driver for operating a motor vehicle in violation of
34 this chapter.

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

