

By: Representative Thompson

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 64

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT ANY STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY THAT EMPLOYS  
 2 PEACE OFFICERS OR PARKING ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEES FROM ESTABLISHING  
 3 ANY POLICY REQUIRING ANY SUCH OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES TO MEET AN  
 4 ARREST QUOTA CONCERNING TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS; TO PROHIBIT THE NUMBER  
 5 OF ARRESTS OR CITATIONS ISSUED BY A PEACE OFFICER OR PARKING  
 6 ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE AS THE SOLE CRITERION FOR EARNING ANY BENEFIT  
 7 PROVIDED BY A STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY; TO PRESCRIBE CERTAIN FINES  
 8 UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; AND  
 9 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) The words and phrases used in this section  
 12 shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them as follows:

13 (a) "Arrest quota" means any requirement regarding the  
 14 number of arrests made, or the number of citations issued, by a  
 15 peace officer, or parking enforcement employee, or the proportion  
 16 of those arrests made and citations issued by a peace officer or  
 17 parking enforcement employee, relative to the arrests made and  
 18 citations issued by another peace officer or parking enforcement  
 19 employee, or group of officers or employees.

20 (b) "Citation" means a notice to appear, notice of  
 21 violation or notice of parking violation.



22 (c) "Peace officer" means any person appointed or  
23 employed full time by the state or any political subdivision  
24 thereof, who is duly sworn and vested with authority to bear arms  
25 and make arrests, and whose primary responsibility is the  
26 prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of criminals  
27 and the enforcement of criminal and traffic laws of this state  
28 and/or the ordinances of any political subdivision thereof.

29 (d) "Agency" includes any governing authority that  
30 employs peace officers within the State of Mississippi.

31 (2) No state or local agency employing peace officers or  
32 parking enforcement employees engaged in the enforcement of Title  
33 Code 63, Mississippi Code of 1972, or any local ordinance adopted  
34 pursuant to Title 63, Mississippi Code of 1972, may establish any  
35 policy requiring any peace officer or parking enforcement  
36 employees to meet an arrest quota.

37 (3) No state or local agency employing peace officers or  
38 parking enforcement employees engaged in the enforcement of Title  
39 63, Mississippi Code of 1972, shall use the number of arrests or  
40 citations issued by a peace officer or parking enforcement  
41 employee as the sole criterion for promotion, demotion, dismissal,  
42 or the earning of any benefit provided by the agency. Those  
43 arrests or citations, and their ultimate dispositions, may only be  
44 considered in evaluating the overall performance of a peace  
45 officer or parking enforcement employees. An evaluation may  
46 include, but shall not be limited to, criteria such as attendance,



47 punctuality, work safety, complaints by citizens, commendations,  
48 demeanor, formal training and professional judgment.

49 (4) Any peace officer or parking enforcement employee who  
50 willfully violates the provisions of this section and is convicted  
51 shall be punished by a fine of no less than Ten Thousand Dollars  
52 (\$10,000.00).

53 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
54 and after July 1, 2020.

