

By: Representatives Thompson, Criswell,
Barnett, Hopkins, Williamson, Brown (20th)

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 883

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 PROVIDE CERTAIN
8 DEFINITIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

48 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
49 and after July 1, 2021.

