

By: Senator(s) McMahan, Hill, Caughman, Tate To: Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2283

1 AN ACT TO CRIMINALIZE THE MALICIOUS OBSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIC
2 STREET HIGHWAY OR ROAD DURING AN UNPERMITTED PROTEST; TO STATE
3 LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the
6 "Freedom of Roadway Act."

7 **SECTION 2.** A person who maliciously obstructs the free,
8 convenient and normal use of any public street, highway, or road
9 during an unpermitted protest shall be fined up to One Thousand
10 Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) or imprisoned for a term not
11 exceeding one (1) year in the county jail or both. A person
12 convicted under this subsection shall, at a minimum, be fined Five
13 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and be imprisoned in the county jail for
14 a term of twenty-five (25) days.

15 **SECTION 3.** It is the intent of the Legislature that:

16 (a) Nothing in the provisions of this act shall be
17 construed to infringe and impede upon any individual's First
18 Amendment rights.



19 (b) Every provision of this act shall operate with
20 equal force and shall be severable one from the other and that, in
21 the event that any provision of this act shall be held invalid or
22 unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the provision
23 shall be severable and the remaining provisions of this act shall
24 be fully enforceable.

25 (c) The provisions of this act are supplementary to the
26 provisions of any other statute of this state.

27 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
28 and after July 1, 2021.

