

By: Representatives Creekmore IV, Bain

To: Drug Policy; Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 691

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ANY PERSON WHO POSSESSES A TABLET PRESS
2 MACHINE TO REGISTER THE MACHINE WITH THE MISSISSIPPI BUREAU OF
3 NARCOTICS BY A CERTAIN DATE; TO PROVIDE THAT POSSESSION OF AN
4 UNREGISTERED TABLET PRESS MACHINE SHALL BE UNLAWFUL; TO REQUIRE
5 ANY PERSON WHO PURCHASES A TABLET PRESS MACHINE TO KEEP CERTAIN
6 RECORDS; TO PROVIDE THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT MAY INSPECT SUCH RECORDS;
7 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the
10 "Victoria Huggins Act."

11 **SECTION 2.** (1) (a) Any person who purchases, owns or
12 otherwise possesses a tablet press machine shall register the
13 machine with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics. For purposes of
14 this section, the term "tablet press machine" means any device
15 that transforms, molds, presses, compresses or otherwise shapes
16 powder materials into tablets or pills of sizes and/or shapes.

17 (b) From and after January 1, 2023, it shall be
18 unlawful for any person to possess a tablet press machine that is
19 not registered with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics. Any
20 person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty



21 of a felony, fined no less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00),
22 imprisoned in the custody of the Mississippi Department of
23 Corrections for not less than two (2) years, nor more than five
24 (5) years, or both.

25 (2) (a) Any person who sells, transfers or otherwise
26 furnishes a tablet press machine shall maintain records of all
27 transactions, which shall include, at least:

28 (i) The name, address and age of the person from
29 whom the machine is purchased as obtained from the seller's
30 personal identification card;

31 (ii) The date and place of each acquisition of the
32 machine;

33 (iii) The weight, quantity or volume and a general
34 physical description of the type of machine purchased in a
35 purchase transaction;

36 (iv) The amount of consideration given in a
37 purchase transaction for the machine;

38 (v) The vehicle license tag number, state of issue
39 and the make and type of the vehicle used to deliver the machine
40 to the purchaser;

41 (vi) If a person other than the seller delivers
42 the machine to the purchaser, the name, address and age of the
43 person who delivers the machine;

44 (vii) A signed statement from the person receiving
45 consideration in the purchase transaction stating that he is the



46 rightful owner of the machine or is entitled to sell the machine
47 being sold;

48 (viii) A scanned copy or a photocopy of the
49 personal identification card of the person receiving consideration
50 in the purchase transaction; or

51 (ix) If a person other than the seller delivers
52 the machine to the purchaser, a scanned copy or a photocopy of the
53 personal identification card of the person delivering the metal
54 property to the purchaser; and

55 (x) A photograph, videotape or similar likeness of
56 the person receiving consideration or any person other than the
57 seller who delivers the machine to the purchaser in which the
58 person's facial features are clearly visible and in which the
59 machine the person is selling or delivering is clearly visible.

60 (b) The records shall be maintained by the purchaser
61 for not less than two (2) years from the date of the purchase
62 transaction, and such records shall be made available to any law
63 enforcement officer.

64 (c) The purchaser of the machine must hold the machine
65 separate and identifiable from other purchases for not less than
66 three (3) business days from the date of purchase. The purchaser
67 shall also photographically capture the machine in the same form,
68 without change, in which the machine was acquired, and maintain
69 the photograph for a period of not less than two (2) years. The
70 time and date shall be digitally recorded on the photograph, and



71 the identity of the person taking the photograph shall be
72 recorded. The purchaser shall permit any law enforcement officer
73 to make an inspection of the machine during the holding period,
74 and of all photographs of the machine. Any photograph of the
75 machine taken and maintained pursuant to this subsection shall be
76 admissible in any civil or criminal proceeding.

77 (d) Any person who violates the provisions of this
78 section shall be guilty of a felony, fined no less than Five
79 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), imprisoned in the custody of the
80 Mississippi Department of Corrections for not less than two (2)
81 years, nor more than five (5) years, or both.

82 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after July 1, 2022.

