

By: Representatives Thompson, Gibbs (36th)

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 802

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

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

10 **SECTION 1.** (1) This section shall be referred to as
 11 "Jennifer's Law."

12 (2) The words and phrases used in this section shall have
 13 the meanings respectively ascribed to them as follows:

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



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

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

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

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

38 (3) No state or local agency employing peace officers or
39 parking enforcement employees engaged in the enforcement of Title
40 63, Mississippi Code of 1972, shall use the number of arrests or
41 citations issued by a peace officer or parking enforcement
42 employee as the sole criterion for promotion, demotion, dismissal,
43 or the earning of any benefit provided by the agency. Those
44 arrests or citations, and their ultimate dispositions, may only be
45 considered in evaluating the overall performance of a peace



46 officer or parking enforcement employees. An evaluation may
47 include, but shall not be limited to, criteria such as attendance,
48 punctuality, work safety, complaints by citizens, commendations,
49 demeanor, formal training and professional judgment.

50 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
51 and after July 1, 2022.

