REGULAR SESSION 2022

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Senator(s) Fillingane

To: Public Health and Welfare; Accountability, Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2045

AN ACT TO CREATE THE ANTI-COVID VACCINE MANDATE ACT; TO
PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON A PERSON'S VACCINATION STATUS OR
POSSESSION OF AN IMMUNITY PASSPORT; TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON,
BUSINESS ENTITY OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL NOT REQUIRE A PERSON
TO RECEIVE A VACCINE THAT IS ALLOWED UNDER AN EMERGENCY USE
AUTHORIZATION; TO PROVIDE FOR EXCEPTIONS TO WHAT SHALL BE
CONSIDERED AN UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE; AND FOR RELATED
PURPOSES.

- 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 10 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 11 "Anti-Covid Vaccine Mandate Act."
- 12 <u>SECTION 2.</u> Discrimination based on vaccination status or
- 13 possession of immunity passport prohibited. (1) For purposes of
- 14 this act, unless the context requires otherwise, the following
- 15 terms shall have the meanings ascribed herein:
- 16 (a) "Immunity passport" means a document, digital
- 17 record or software application indicating that a person is immune
- 18 to a disease, either through vaccination or infection and
- 19 recovery.
- 20 (b) "Vaccination status" means an indication of whether
- 21 a person has received one or more doses of a vaccine.

- 22 (2) A person, business entity or governmental entity shall
- 23 not require a person to receive any vaccine.
- 24 (3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this
- 25 section, it shall be considered an unlawful discriminatory
- 26 practice for:
- 27 (a) A person, business entity or a governmental entity
- 28 to refuse, withhold from or deny to a person any local or state
- 29 services, goods, facilities, advantages, privileges, licensing,
- 30 educational opportunities, health care access or employment
- 31 opportunities based on the person's vaccination status or whether
- 32 the person has an immunity passport;
- 33 (b) An employer to refuse employment to a person, to
- 34 bar a person from employment, or to discriminate against a person
- 35 in compensation or in a term, condition, or privilege of
- 36 employment based on the person's vaccination status or whether the
- 37 person has an immunity passport; or
- 38 (c) A public accommodation to exclude, limit,
- 39 segregate, refuse to serve or otherwise discriminate against a
- 40 person based on the person's vaccination status or whether the
- 41 person has an immunity passport.
- 42 (4) This section shall not apply to vaccination requirements
- 43 set forth for schools pursuant to Sections 41-23-37 and 43-20-8,
- 44 Mississippi Code of 1972.
- 45 (5) It shall not be considered an unlawful discriminatory

46 practice for a governmental entity, business entity or individual

- 47 to implement reasonable accommodation measures for employees,
- 48 patients, visitors and other persons who are not vaccinated or not
- 49 immune to protect the safety and health of employees, patients,
- 50 visitors and other persons from communicable diseases.
- 51 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 52 and after July 1, 2022.