

By: Senator(s) McMahan

To: Judiciary, Division A

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 2356

1 AN ACT TO ENACT THE REAL YOU ACT OF 2022; TO DEFINE TERMS; TO
2 PROHIBIT PHYSICALLY INCARCERATED OFFENDERS FROM REQUESTING A NAME
3 CHANGE; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS; 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 Real You Act of 2022."

7 **SECTION 2.** For purposes of this act, the following words
8 shall have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context
9 otherwise requires:

10 (a) "Change of name petition" means a petition to
11 change the legal name of an individual.

12 (b) "Offender" means any physically incarcerated person
13 convicted of a crime or offense under the laws and ordinances of
14 the state and its political subdivisions or the laws and
15 regulations of the federal government.

16 **SECTION 3.** (1) (a) No offender shall have standing to file
17 a change of name petition with the chancery court;



(b) No chancellor shall grant a change of name petition for an offender; and

(c) No chancery clerk shall file a change of name petition for an offender.

(2) A chancellor may change the name of an offender if:

(a) A district attorney files a change of name petition on behalf of an offender;

(b) A sheriff of a county in which a person is incarcerated files a change of name petition on behalf of an offender;

(c) The commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Corrections, or his or her designee, files a change of name petition on behalf of an offender; or

(d) A Mississippi Department of Corrections Chaplain files a change of name petition on behalf of an offender.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2022.

