

By: Senator(s) McMahan

To: Judiciary, Division A

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 PROHIBIT MINORS FROM REQUESTING LEGAL RECOGNITION OF A  
4 GENDER TRANSITION; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as "The  
8 Real You Act of 2022."

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

12 (a) "Biological sex" means the biological indication of  
13 male and female in the context of reproductive potential or  
14 capacity, such as sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex  
15 hormones, gonads, and nonambiguous internal and external genitalia  
16 present at birth, without regard to an individual's psychological,  
17 chosen, or subjective experience of gender.

18 (b) "Change of name petition" means a petition to  
19 change the legal name of an individual.



20 (c) "Gender" means the psychological, behavioral,  
21 social and cultural aspects of being male or female.

22 (d) "Gender transition petition" means a petition to  
23 legally recognize an individual's transition from living as a  
24 gender that corresponds to his or her biological sex to  
25 identifying with and living as a gender different from his or her  
26 biological sex. "Gender transition petition" may include a change  
27 of an individual's name.

28 (e) "Offender" means any physically incarcerated person  
29 convicted of a crime or offense under the laws and ordinances of  
30 the state and its political subdivisions or the laws and  
31 regulations of the federal government.

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

49 **SECTION 4.** No minor, or the parent or guardian of a minor,  
50 nor their representative or designee, shall have standing to file  
51 a gender transition petition unless:

52 (a) A licensed physician in good standing with the  
53 Medical Board of a Licensure shall offer a letter of support for  
54 the gender transition petition;

55 (b) A licensed psychiatrist in good standing with the  
56 Medical Board of Licensure shall offer a letter of support for the  
57 gender transition petition; and

58 (c) A chancery clerk, after an in-person interview with  
59 the minor, shall offer a letter of support for the gender  
60 transition petition.

61 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
62 and after July 1, 2022.

