

By: Senator(s) England

To: Corrections

SENATE BILL NO. 2405

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-7-36, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN RULES
3 AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY PORTALS BY THOSE
4 WHO ARE ON PAROLE OR PROBATION AND PROBATION OFFICERS WHO
5 SUPERVISE THOSE WHO ARE ON PAROLE OR PROBATION; AND FOR RELATED
6 PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-7-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 47-7-36. (1) Any person who supervises an individual placed
11 on parole by the Parole Board or placed on probation by the court
12 shall set the times and locations for meetings that are required
13 for parole or probation at such times and locations that are
14 reasonably designed to accommodate the work schedule of an
15 individual on parole or probation who is employed by another
16 person or entity. To effectuate the provisions of this section,
17 the parole officer or probation officer may utilize technology
18 portals such as Skype, FaceTime or Google video chat, or any other
19 technology portal that allows communication between the individual
20 on parole or probation and the parole or probation officer, as



21 applicable, to occur simultaneously in real time by voice and
22 video in lieu of requiring a face-to-face in person meeting of
23 such individual and the parole or probation officer, as
24 applicable. For individuals who are self-employed, the provisions
25 of this section shall only apply with the agreement of their
26 supervising parole or probation officer.

27 (2) The Department of Corrections shall promulgate rules and
28 regulations to implement the provisions of this section. The
29 rules and regulations promulgated by the department shall include,
30 but are not limited to, minimum standards and guidelines for the
31 authorized technology and how it may be used as well as standards
32 for determining the eligibility and suitability of an individual
33 on parole or probation to meet his or her reporting requirements
34 through the use of such technology. The eligibility and
35 suitability standards shall include consideration of the severity
36 of the individual's underlying criminal conviction and such
37 individual's criminal history, supervision level, and past
38 supervision history.

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

