By: Senator(s) Seymour

To: Judiciary, Division A

SENATE BILL NO. 2641

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 93-1-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE ANY JUDGE OF THE MILITARY COURT TO SOLEMNIZE RITES OF MATRIMONY ANYWHERE IN THE STATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 5 **SECTION 1.** Section 93-1-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 6 amended as follows:
- 7 93-1-17. Any minister of the gospel ordained according to
- 8 the rules of his church or society, in good standing; any Rabbi or
- 9 other spiritual leader of any other religious body authorized
- 10 under the rules of such religious body to solemnize rites of
- 11 matrimony and being in good standing; any judge of the Supreme
- 12 Court, Court of Appeals, circuit court, chancery court, military
- 13 court or county court may solemnize the rites of matrimony between
- 14 any persons anywhere within this state who shall produce a license
- 15 granted as herein directed. Justice court judges and members of
- 16 the boards of supervisors may likewise solemnize the rites of
- 17 matrimony within their respective counties. Any marriages
- 18 performed by a mayor of a municipality prior to March 14, 1994,

- 19 are valid provided such marriages satisfy the requirements of
- 20 Section 93-1-18.
- 21 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 22 and after July 1, 2022.