

By: Representatives Currie, Bounds, Miles,
Crawford, Mangold, Faulkner, Stamps

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 281
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-9-131, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE A BENEFICIARY OF A MUNICIPAL OR COUNTY LAW
3 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY TO RECEIVE THE
4 OFFICER'S SIDEARM; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 45-3-51, MISSISSIPPI
5 CODE OF 1972, WHICH AUTHORIZES A BENEFICIARY OF A MISSISSIPPI
6 HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL OFFICER OR AGENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI BUREAU
7 OF NARCOTICS WHO IS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY TO RECEIVE THE
8 OFFICER'S SIDEARM; 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 "Officer James White and Colonel Zach Moak Act".

12 **SECTION 2.** Section 45-9-131, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
13 amended as follows:

14 45-9-131. Upon approval of the governing authority of the
15 municipality or county, a member of any municipal or county law
16 enforcement agency who retires under any state retirement system
17 or the * * * beneficiary of a law enforcement officer who is
18 killed in the line of duty may be allowed to purchase as his or
19 her personal property one (1) sidearm which was issued to the law
20 enforcement officer by the law enforcement agency from which he or
21 she retired or by whom he or she was employed at the time of



22 death. The governing authority of the municipality or county
23 shall determine the amount to be paid for the firearm by the
24 retiring member of the law enforcement agency or the * * *
25 beneficiary of the law enforcement officer.

26 **SECTION 3.** Section 45-3-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
27 brought forward as follows:

28 45-3-51. Each member of the Mississippi Highway Safety
29 Patrol or agent of the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics who retires
30 under the Highway Safety Patrol Retirement System or the Public
31 Employees' Retirement System, for superannuation or for reason of
32 disability or a beneficiary of such member of the Highway Safety
33 Patrol or agent of the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics who is
34 killed in the line of duty shall be allowed to retain, as his
35 personal property, one (1) sidearm which was issued under
36 authority of Section 45-3-19 or 41-29-159. Likewise, a
37 beneficiary of any law enforcement officer killed in the line of
38 duty shall be allowed to retain the officer's sidearm.

39 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after July 1, 2023.

