

By: Representatives Banks, Brown (70th),
Harness, Faulkner, Clark, Evans (91st),
Gibbs, Hines, Jackson, Mickens, Porter,
Straughter, Thompson, Hulum

To: Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 490

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 DESIGNATE THE LAST MONDAY OF APRIL AS CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIAL DAY;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 3-3-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
8 of this section, the following are declared to be legal
9 holidays * * *:

10 (a) The first day of January, designated as New Year's
11 Day;

12 (b) The third Monday of January, designated as Robert
13 E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday;

14 (c) The third Monday of February, designated as George
15 Washington's birthday;

16 (d) The last Monday of April, designated as both
17 Confederate Memorial Day and Civil Rights Memorial Day;



18 (e) The last Monday of May, designated as both National
19 Memorial Day and Jefferson Davis' birthday;

20 (f) The fourth day of July, designated as Independence
21 Day;

22 (g) The first Monday of September, designated as Labor
23 Day;

24 (h) The eleventh day of November, designated as
25 Armistice or Veterans' Day;

26 (i) The day fixed by proclamation by the Governor of
27 Mississippi as a day of Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to
28 correspond to the date proclaimed by the President of the United
29 States, designated as Thanksgiving Day; and

30 (j) The twenty-fifth day of December, designated as
31 Christmas Day.

32 * * * If any legal holiday * * * falls on a Sunday, then the
33 next following day shall be a legal holiday.

34 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
35 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
36 Monday in January, designated as Robert E. Lee's and Dr. Martin
37 Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and the eleventh day of November,
38 designated as Armistice or Veterans' Day, the governing
39 authorities of any municipality or county may declare, by order
40 spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or any one (1) other day
41 during the year, to be a legal holiday.



42 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
43 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
44 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
45 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
46 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
47 holiday.

48 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
49 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
50 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
51 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
52 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
53 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
54 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
55 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
56 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and
57 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
58 holiday.

59 (5) Armistice * * * or Veterans' Day shall be observed by
60 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
61 Mississippi. The superintendent of schools of each public school
62 district is authorized to provide for the appearance of uniformed
63 military personnel, uniformed veterans or the families of fallen
64 military personnel/veterans at such public school exercises in
65 honor of Armistice * * * or Veterans' Day. The superintendent of
66 schools is also authorized to permit the school band and its



67 director(s) at any public school in the district to perform at
68 Armistice * * * or Veterans' Day exercises in the school district
69 upon the request of public officials or veterans associations
70 without loss of any program credit by participating students and
71 without loss of leave by participating school personnel.

72 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
73 and after July 1, 2023.

