

By: Representatives Brown (70th), Banks,
Denton, Faulkner

To: Transportation;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 592

1 AN ACT TO DESIGNATE A SEGMENT OF U.S. HIGHWAY 49/49E/49W FROM
2 ITS INTERSECTION BEGINNING AT THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF JACKSON,
3 MISSISSIPPI, AND MEDGAR EVERS BOULEVARD IN HINDS COUNTY,
4 MISSISSIPPI, TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH U.S. HIGHWAY 61 IN
5 CLARKSDALE, COAHOMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AS AN HISTORIC MEMORIAL
6 BLUES HIGHWAY; TO REQUIRE MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES ALONG THE
7 ROUTE OF THE HIGHWAY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MISSISSIPPI BLUES
8 COMMISSION TO DESIGNATE HISTORICAL SITES AND EVENTS ALONG THE
9 ROUTE OF THE HIGHWAY; TO REQUIRE MDOT TO KEEP UP AND MAINTAIN THE
10 SEGMENT OF HIGHWAY TO THE DEGREE APPROPRIATE FOR SUCH AN HISTORIC
11 HIGHWAY; TO AUTHORIZE MDOT TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
12 WITH ALL COUNTIES THAT ENCOMPASS THE ROUTE OF THE DESIGNATED BLUES
13 HIGHWAY FOR UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PORTION OF THE HISTORIC
14 MEMORIAL BLUES HIGHWAY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

16 **SECTION 1.** (1) The segment of United States Highway
17 49/49E/49W located in Hinds, Madison, Yazoo, Holmes, Leflore,
18 Humphreys, Sunflower, Tallahatchie and Coahoma Counties within the
19 State of Mississippi, beginning at the corporate limits of
20 Jackson, Mississippi, and Medgar Evers Boulevard in Hinds County,
21 Mississippi, and extending northerly to its intersection with
22 United States Highway 61 in Clarksdale, Coahoma County,
23 Mississippi, is designated as an historic memorial blues highway.



24 (2) The municipalities and counties along the highway, in
25 conjunction with the Mississippi Blues Commission shall designate
26 historical sites and events along the historic memorial blues
27 highway to offer to tourists and targeted groups a structured tour
28 of historical sites and events.

29 (3) The Mississippi Department of Transportation shall
30 ensure the segment of highway described in subsection (1) of this
31 section is kept up and maintained to the degree appropriate for
32 such an historic highway.

33 (4) The Mississippi Department of Transportation may enter
34 into an interlocal agreement with all counties that encompass the
35 route of the designated blues highway to further the upkeep and
36 maintenance of the segment of the historic memorial blues highway.

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

