

By: Representatives Currie, Holloway, Ford
(73rd)

To: Tourism

HOUSE BILL NO. 772

1 AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE MISSISSIPPI OPAL AS THE OFFICIAL
2 STATE GEMSTONE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

3 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Opal is the only gem found thus far
4 to have been naturally produced within the geographical boundaries
5 of Mississippi, having been discovered during detailed geological
6 mapping of the Catahoula Formation in Claiborne County by the
7 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of
8 Geology; and

9 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Opal is a precious gemstone which
10 shows brilliant flashes of fire, ranging in color from green to
11 red; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi has yet to designate a
13 state gemstone, and the designation of the Mississippi Opal as the
14 official state gemstone will encourage pride in our state's rich,
15 natural heritage; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

17 **SECTION 1.** The Mississippi Opal is hereby designated as the
18 official state gemstone of Mississippi.



19 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
20 and after its passage.

