To: Judiciary A

By: Representative Yancey

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1157 (As Sent to Governor)

AN ACT TO CREATE SECTION 75-24-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE PERSONS OR ENTITIES ENGAGED IN THE RENTAL OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO DISCLOSE THE TOTAL CHARGES FOR THE ENTITY RENTAL, INCLUDING ALL ADDITIONAL MANDATORY CHARGES; TO AMEND SECTION 75-24-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 8 **SECTION 1.** Section 75-24-8, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 9 created as follows:
- 10 75-24-8. (1) The following words and phrases when used in
- 11 this section have the meaning respectively ascribed to them,
- 12 except for instances where the context clearly describes and
- 13 indicates a different meaning:
- 14 (a) "Additional mandatory charge" means any separately
- 15 stated charges that a renter is required to pay that specifically
- 16 relate to the operation of a rental vehicle. This term includes,
- 17 but is not limited to, a customer facility charge, airport
- 18 concession recovery fee, vehicle license recovery fee, and any
- 19 government imposed taxes or fees.

- 20 (b) "Quote" means an estimated cost of rental provided
- 21 to a potential customer based on information provided by the
- 22 customer, including potential dates of rental, location or class
- 23 of vehicle.
- 24 (c) "Vehicle license recovery fee" means a charge to
- 25 recover costs to license, title, register, plate, or inspect a
- 26 rental vehicle that are incurred by a person or entity engaged in
- 27 the business of renting motor vehicles under rental agreements.
- 28 (2) If a person or entity engaged in the business of renting
- 29 motor vehicles under rental agreements imposes additional
- 30 mandatory charges, the person or entity shall:
- 31 (a) Provide a good-faith estimate of the total charges
- 32 for the entire rental, including all additional mandatory charges,
- 33 whenever a quote is provided to a potential customer. The
- 34 good-faith estimate may exclude mileage charges and charges for
- 35 optional items that cannot be determined prior to completing a
- 36 rental reservation based on the information provided by the
- 37 potential customer; and
- 38 (b) Disclose in the rental contract provided to the
- 39 renter the total charges for the entire rental, including all
- 40 additional mandatory charges. Total charges for the entire rental
- 41 do not include any charges that cannot be determined at the time
- 42 the rental commences.
- 43 **SECTION 2.** Section 75-24-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

44 amended as follows:

- 45 75-24-5. (1) Unfair methods of competition affecting
- 46 commerce and unfair or deceptive trade practices in or affecting
- 47 commerce are prohibited. Action may be brought under Section
- $48 \quad 75-24-5(1)$  only under the provisions of Section 75-24-9.
- 49 (2) Without limiting the scope of subsection (1) of this
- 50 section, the following unfair methods of competition and unfair or
- 51 deceptive trade practices or acts in the conduct of any trade or
- 52 commerce are hereby prohibited:
- 53 (a) Passing off goods or services as those of another;
- 54 (b) Misrepresentation of the source, sponsorship,
- 55 approval, or certification of goods or services;
- 56 (c) Misrepresentation of affiliation, connection, or
- 57 association with, or certification by another;
- 58 (d) Misrepresentation of designations of geographic
- 59 origin in connection with goods or services;
- (e) Representing that goods or services have
- 61 sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses,
- 62 benefits, or quantities that they do not have or that a person has
- 63 a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or connection that
- 64 he does not have;
- (f) Representing that goods are original or new if they
- 66 are reconditioned, reclaimed, used, or secondhand;
- 67 (g) Representing that goods or services are of a
- 68 particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a
- 69 particular style or model, if they are of another;

70	(h)	Disparaging	the	goods,	services,	or	business	of

- 71 another by false or misleading representation of fact;
- 72 (i) Advertising goods or services with intent not to
- 73 sell them as advertised;
- 74 (j) Advertising goods or services with intent not to
- 75 supply reasonably expectable public demand, unless the
- 76 advertisement discloses a limitation of quantity;
- 77 (k) Misrepresentations of fact concerning the reasons
- 78 for, existence of, or amounts of price reductions;
- 79 (1) Advertising by or on behalf of any licensed or
- 80 regulated health care professional which does not specifically
- 81 describe the license or qualifications of the licensed or
- 82 regulated health care professional;
- 83 (m) Charging an increased premium for reinstating a
- 84 motor vehicle insurance policy that was cancelled or suspended by
- 85 the insured solely for the reason that he was transferred out of
- 86 this state while serving in the United States Armed Forces or on
- 87 active duty in the National Guard or United States Armed Forces
- 88 Reserve. It is also an unfair practice for an insurer to charge
- 89 an increased premium for a new motor vehicle insurance policy if
- 90 the applicant for coverage or his covered dependents were
- 91 previously insured with a different insurer and canceled that
- 92 policy solely for the reason that he was transferred out of this
- 93 state while serving in the United States Armed Forces or on active
- 94 duty in the National Guard or United States Armed Forces Reserve.

95	For purposes of determining premiums, an insurer shall consider
96	such persons as having maintained continuous coverage. The
97	provisions of this paragraph (m) shall apply only to such
98	instances when the insured does not drive the vehicle during the
99	period of cancellation or suspension of his policy * * $*$ ; and
100	(n) Violating the provisions of Section 75-24-8.
101	SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
102	and after July 1, 2023.