To: Tourism

By: Senator(s) Chassaniol

SENATE BILL NO. 2138

- AN ACT CREATING A NEW SECTION 3-3-66, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, DESIGNATING THE MISSISSIPPI OPAL AS THE STATE GEMSTONE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 5 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
- 6 3-3-66, Mississippi Code of 1972:
- 7 3-3-66. The Mississippi Opal is hereby designated as the
- 8 official state gemstone in Mississippi. The Mississippi Opal is
- 9 the only gem stone found thus far to have been naturally produced
- 10 within the geographical boundaries of Mississippi, having been
- 11 discovered during detailed geological mapping of Catahoula
- 12 Formation in Claiborne County by the Mississippi Department of
- 13 Environmental Equality, Office of Geology. The Mississippi Opal
- 14 is a precious gemstone which shows brilliant flashes of fire,
- 15 ranging from green to red. Designation of the Mississippi Opal as
- 16 the official state gemstone encourages pride in our state's rich
- 17 natural heritage.

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