

By: Senator(s) Turner-Ford, Jackson, Jordan, Butler (36th), Butler (38th), Blount, Thomas, Hickman, Blackmon, Norwood, Frazier, Simmons (12th) To: Rules

SENATE BILL NO. 2677

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3-3-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE DAYS DESIGNATED AS LEGAL HOLIDAYS TO REMOVE THE LAST
3 MONDAY OF APRIL (CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY); AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

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

8 3-3-7. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
9 of this section, the following are declared to be legal holidays,
10 viz: the first day of January (New Year's Day); the third Monday
11 of January (Robert E. Lee's birthday and Dr. Martin Luther King,
12 Jr.'s birthday); the third Monday of February (Washington's
13 birthday); * * * the last Monday of May (National Memorial Day and
14 Jefferson Davis' birthday); the fourth day of July (Independence
15 Day); the first Monday of September (Labor Day); the eleventh day
16 of November (Armistice or Veterans' Day); the day fixed by
17 proclamation by the Governor of Mississippi as a day of
18 Thanksgiving, which shall be fixed to correspond to the date
19 proclaimed by the President of the United States (Thanksgiving



20 Day); and the twenty-fifth day of December (Christmas Day). In
21 the event any holiday hereinbefore declared legal shall fall on
22 Sunday, then the next following day shall be a legal holiday.

23 (2) In lieu of any one (1) legal holiday provided for in
24 subsection (1) of this section, with the exception of the third
25 Monday in January (Robert E. Lee's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
26 birthday) and the eleventh day of November (Armistice or Veterans'
27 Day), the governing authorities of any municipality or county may
28 declare, by order spread upon its minutes, Mardi Gras Day or any
29 one (1) other day during the year, to be a legal holiday.

30 (3) August 16 is declared to be Elvis Aaron Presley Day in
31 recognition and appreciation of Elvis Aaron Presley's many
32 contributions, international recognition and the rich legacy left
33 to us by Elvis Aaron Presley. This day shall be a day of
34 recognition and observation and shall not be recognized as a legal
35 holiday.

36 (4) May 8 is declared to be Hernando de Soto Day in
37 recognition, observation and commemoration of Hernando de Soto,
38 who led the first and most imposing expedition ever made by
39 Europeans into the wilds of North America and the State of
40 Mississippi, and in further recognition of the Spanish explorer's
41 187-day journey from the Tombigbee River basin on our state's
42 eastern boundary, westward to the place of discovery of the
43 Mississippi River on May 8, 1541. This day shall be a day of
44 commemoration, recognition and observation of Hernando de Soto and



45 European exploration and shall not be recognized as a legal
46 holiday.

47 (5) Armistice Day (Veterans' Day) shall be observed by
48 appropriate exercises in all the public schools in the State of
49 Mississippi. The superintendent of schools of each public school
50 district is authorized to provide for the appearance of uniformed
51 military personnel, uniformed veterans or the families of fallen
52 military personnel/veterans at such public school exercises in
53 honor of Armistice (Veterans' Day). The superintendent of schools
54 is also authorized to permit the school band and its director(s)
55 at any public school in the district to perform at Armistice
56 (Veterans' Day) exercises in the school district upon the request
57 of public officials or veterans associations without loss of any
58 program credit by participating students and without loss of leave
59 by participating school personnel.

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

