

By: Representative Yancey

To: Judiciary B

## HOUSE BILL NO. 412

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF A SECONDHAND MATTRESS WITHOUT  
2 THE ATTACHMENT OF A SPECIFIED TAG INDICATING THAT A MATTRESS IS  
3 SECONDHAND; TO REQUIRE CERTAIN OTHER INFORMATION ON THE TAG; TO  
4 PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THE SECTION; TO SET FORTH  
5 CERTAIN EXCEPTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Each mattress containing any secondhand material,  
8 sold in this state, must have securely and permanently attached to  
9 it a white cloth tag that:

10 (a) Is visible on the outside covering, with the  
11 visible part being not less than six (6) square inches in size;

12 (b) Will not flake when abraded; and

13 (c) Is indelibly stamped or printed in the English  
14 language a statement or statements:

15 (i) Describing the kind of materials used in  
16 filling the mattress;

17 (ii) Indicating that the mattress itself is  
18 secondhand or that certain specified material contained in the  
19 mattress is secondhand; and



20 (iii) Indicating a description of the original  
21 date of manufacture of the mattress. A good-faith effort to  
22 describe the original date of manufacture shall be sufficient for  
23 this subparagraph.

24 **SECTION 2.** A person who knowingly sells a secondhand  
25 mattress in violation of Section 1 of this act is guilty of a  
26 misdemeanor. Upon conviction, the person shall be punished:

27 (a) For a first offense by a fine of Fifty Dollars  
28 (\$50.00);

29 (b) For a second offense, a fine of Five Hundred  
30 Dollars (\$500);

31 (c) For a third or subsequent offense, a fine of Two  
32 Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500).

33 **SECTION 3.** The provisions of this act do not apply to:

34 (a) The sale by a householder of a secondhand mattress  
35 that was owned and used by the householder or the householder's  
36 family and was not acquired for the purpose of resale.

37 (b) The sale by an entity that has received a  
38 determination of exemption from the internal revenue service under  
39 26 USC Section 501(c)(3) and is not organized or operated for  
40 profit and where no part of the net earnings of the entity inures  
41 to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual.

42 (c) The sale of a secondhand mattress pursuant to a  
43 court order.



44           **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
45 and after July 1, 2024.

